Gov't protests WHO classification of RP on SARS

Story on PAGE A2

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Roco's mom

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

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S. Cotabato blast kills 13

26 wounded, 11 critically; probers eye suicide bomber

By Edwin O. Fernandez and Aquiles Zonio
PDI Mindanao Bureau

COTABATO CITY—A powerful explosion rocked the crowded public market in Koronadal City at around 3:40 p.m. yesterday.

At press time, the death toll had risen to 13 from the five initially announced by Supt. Danilo Posadas, Koronadal City police chief.

In explaining the increase, Gen. Agustin Dema-ala, commander of the Army's 301st Infantry Brigade based in nearby Sultan Kudarat province, said the eight others died at the South Cotabato provincial hospital.

Dema-ala said at least 26 people were injured in the explosion, 11 of whom were in critical condition at the same hospital.

"The explosion was so powerful that the bodies of those killed were severely mangled," Posadas said over radio station dxOM.

A witness said the bomb—fashioned out of a mortar shell with a timing device, according to the regional police office—went off in front of the G-MEG Agricultural Supply on Alunan Avenue, near the busy section of the market where people were buying textiles and *ukay-ukay* (used clothing).

The area was crowded because it was market day for traders in Koronadal, capital of South Cotabato province.

According to Dema-ala, the military is considering two of those killed as the bombers. He said the explosion could have caught the two "as they were rushing out of the market because of the

S. COTABATO/ A21

WHAT remains to be seen after the bomb hit a huge umbrella under which a vendor was selling used clothes at the public market in the South Cotabato capital of Koronadal. Aside from the dead who were severely mangled, 26 people were injured, 11 of whom are in critical condition. BENJIE FERMALINO/PDI PHOTO

Dramatic drop in HK Sunday Mass attendance

By Cherry Velarde
Contributor

HONG KONG—Time was when Sunday Masses at St. Joseph's Church would get so packed with the faithful, mostly Filipinos, that attendants had to ask latecomers not to come in anymore.

The result: a crowd of worshippers attending Mass outside the church doors.

But this scene is no longer typical in this church located in the heart of the bustling Central business district. Since the start of the SARS outbreak in late March, the drop in the number of Massgoers has been dramatic.

"On average we have about 1,000 people for each of our 10 Masses on Sundays. "But the number's been cut by half since SARS," said Fr. Dennis Hanly of St. Joseph parish.

Not that people are losing their faith, Hanly said.

"All those who live and work in Hong Kong are caught up in the anxiety brought about by SARS," he said. "It is usually in times of crisis that we seek God. It is when Christians thrive because it makes us realize our values, that we care for our lives and for others."

"What SARS has helped us to do is focus our attention on deeper values that we'd like to nurture in our society," Hanly added. "Situations like SARS are not the ones that gnaw at our faith. It is the

DRAMATIC/ A20

EZ's bank requires character as collateral

By Volt Contreras

THE FORMER chair and president of the Bank of the Philippine Islands now chairs a small town bank with less than 700 depositors.

Regarded as the epitome of the original Makati tycoon, Enrique Jacobo Zobel and the foundation that bears his name put up Banco ng Masa for the "hard-working poor."

"I know how it is to be poor. I've been on both sides of the (economic) fence, so I can compare," said Zobel.

During World War II, Zobel hunted down stray cats in the dark alleys of Manila when starvation threatened even the country's *buena familias*.

The then teenage Zobel was also forced to work as a *caretela* driver plying the Pasay-Jones Bridge route, after getting back the family-owned ponies that were earlier seized by the Japanese invaders.

And so the banker and industrialist can well identify with the lives being touched by Banco ng Masa. As borrowers, they have nothing more than industry and *palabra de honor* as credentials.

Banco started operations in August last year in Calatagan, Batangas, a town "EZ" has embraced as his own not just for being the site of the old family estate but for giving the Zobels refuge after they fleed Manila in 1944 at the height of the

EZ'S BANK/ A21

Gracia's book a story of love, faith

Songs, Scripture, Martin kept her singing, laughing, living

By John Nery

(Editor's Note. In spite of its allegations of military collusion and MILF complicity, Gracia Burham's "In the Presence of My Enemies" is essentially a love story and a faith account. It tells how the Burnhams journeyed into the heart of darkness, and found light.)

(Last of three parts)

THE BOOK'S clearest-sounding theme, from first page to last, is Gracia's love for her husband Martin, a man who lived his faith.

Despair tempted Gracia Burnham more than once. Her ordeal at the hands of the Abu Sayyaf, which lasted one year and 11 days, led her to the edge several times. Each time, she recalls in various passages in "In the Presence of My Enemies," she was pulled from the brink either by the steady counsel of her husband Martin or the promises of Scripture she had memorized, or the power of Christian hymns she was prompted to sing.

"Music had always been such a big part of my life," Gracia writes, recalling the time the hostages spent in the Moro Islamic Liberation Front camp in Basilan, when in the relative peace she had found herself on a three-day crying jag.

"Now I found that I could sing songs like 'I sing the Mighty Power of God' and the majestic anthems. But I refused to sing 'O Love that Will Not Let Me Go.' I was really mad at God."

The "turning point" came by the "beautiful river" that ran beside the MILF site (**Erelei Sumisip, Basilan-Ed.**), when in the depths of "overwhelming" despair she decided "to believe what God's Word says to be true whether I felt it was or not."

In the chapter entitled "A Song for the Jungle," Gracia remembers when she and Ediborah Yap, the head nurse kidnapped from the Lamitan hospital, taught Angie Montealegre, a hostage abducted from the Dos Palmas resort, the hymn "How Great Thou Art."

The song, like Psalm 8's praise of nature, speaks of God revealing himself in the universe he had created. Its verses sing of wandering through the woods, hearing the birds in the trees, looking

GRACIA'S/ A21

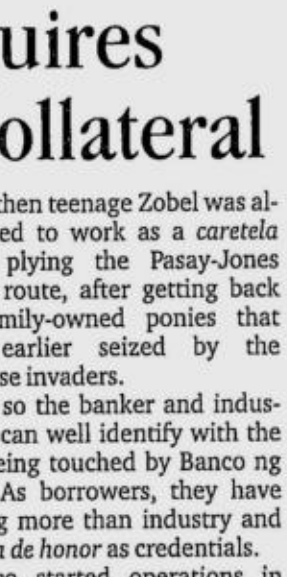
SARS shows weaker sex

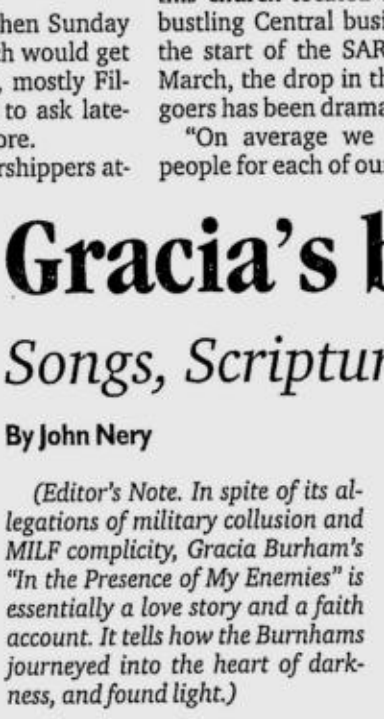
MORE women than men have been sickened by SARS in Singapore, but they seem to recover better than the opposite sex because they are the stronger sex biologically.

This observation was made by a male member of Singapore's Cabinet, Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan, a surgeon and minister of state for national development.

Balakrishnan said yesterday he was not surprised by new data showing that local women have contracted SARS more often than men. He said women have had greater exposure to patients with SARS because they often are primary caregivers in homes and

SARS/ A6





LEONCIO BALBIN JR./PDI NOTHERN LUZON BUREAU

LOLITA DALINGAY, mother of a now landmark figure in the fight against SARS, Adela Dalingay, the first Filipina to die of the still mysterious disease. *(Story on A19)*

Dr. Mom's Rx: Expose kids to viruses, 'dirty' ice cream

Blanche S. Rivera

HEALTH Secretary Manuel Dayrit may be in charge of the health of the country's 81 million population.

But in the quiet Dayrit household in Parañaque City, it's a woman who makes sure the SARS czar and their two kids are always at their prime.

Elvira Dayrit, the health secretary's low-profile wife who is also a doctor and a former health official, makes the prescription for the family.

And for the lady Dayrit, good health could actually boil down to some "dirty" ice cream, occasional barbecue from the streets and weekends of swimming and biking for the whole family.

Unlike most doctor-parents, Dayrit says she wants her daughters aged 12 and 10 to be exposed to the community, viruses and all.

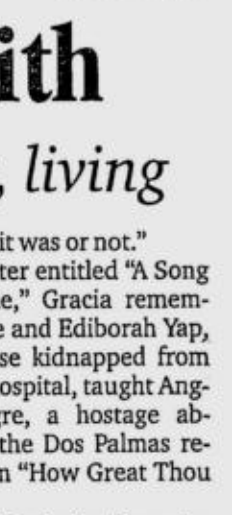
"As doctors, we know it's useless to overprotect children," she says in an interview with the INQUIRER at the Department of Health, where she is part of the secretariat for the task force on Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome.

"It increases their immunity if the kids are exposed. If you keep them at home, their immune system goes down as soon as they go out. It's like SARS. It's new so people have no immunity to it, but once it's around, our immune system may be able to fight it," she adds.

At home, Dayrit teaches her children basic first aid and healthy habits like washing their hands.

She also emphasizes conservative

DR. MOM'S/ A19



ELVIRA DAYRIT: The doctor is in all the time for all her children's needs. ERIK ARAZAS

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Eastern and Southern Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: ARMIN ADINA, PDI RESEARCH/05/11/03

Metro Manila	Cloudy with rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy with rains
Baguio	Partly cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy with rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with rains	Cebu	Cloudy with rains
Laoag	Partly cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with rains
Clark Zone	Partly cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with rains
Legazpi	Cloudy with rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with rains
Calapan	Cloudy with rains	Davao	Cloudy with rains

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

RP protests WHO classification on SARS

By Armand N. Nocum

THE GOVERNMENT has filed a formal protest with the World Health Organization (WHO), whose alleged misclassification of the country as having "medium level" SARS transmission has spooked other nations into issuing travel bans against the Philippines.

In a press briefing, both Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit and WHO country representative Jean-Marc Olive said the "failure" of the WHO head office in Geneva to clearly explain the nuances of "medium level" has done great damage to the country.

Dayrit said it was taken to mean "community spread, a situation that does not exist in the Philippines at this time."

On May 9, the WHO head office issued an advisory putting the country in the same category as the worst-hit places—Toronto in Canada, Taipei and Singapore. The advisory explained that "medium-level" transmission occurred when there was "more than one generation of local probable SARS cases, but only among persons . . . previously identified . . . as known contacts of probable SARS cases.

"Low transmission" was described as a situation where "imported probable SARS cases have produced only one generation of local probable cases." And transmission was "high level" when there were "local probable cases . . . among persons who have not been previously identified as known contacts of probable SARS cases."

Inadequate definition

Dayrit said it was clearly the inadequate definition of the Philippine situation that resulted in the issuance of travel bans by Taiwan, Singapore, Kuwait, Lebanon and the United Arab Emirates.

Taiwan imposed a 17-day ban on visitors from the Philippines, China, Singapore, Hong Kong, Mongolia and Toronto. Kuwait, Lebanon and the UAE have reportedly banned overseas Filipino workers.

Singapore advised its citizens on Thursday to postpone trips to the Philippines and Hong Kong; Guangdong, Beijing and Shanxi in China; Toronto in Canada; Taiwan and Mongolia. But it removed the Philippines from the the advisory the following day.

A spokesperson told the Agence France Presse yesterday the Singaporean health ministry decided to keep on the list "only those classified by the WHO as having very high transmission patterns."

Singapore Embassy spokesperson Paul Koh also told the INQUIRER: "Singapore reviews its travel advisory daily as the SARS situation in various countries remain fluid." He said his country would "continue to be guided by the WHO."

Contained in RP

For good measure, Dayrit said he was still asking WHO-Geneva to explain to the world community that SARS infection in the Philippines has been "contained," with all 10 cases quarantined.

Olive stressed that a travel ban was in order whenever someone got infected and the contacts could not be traced. In an earlier statement, he said the Philippines presented "negligible" risk to travellers. But he also explained that it was "normal" for the WHO to err, since SARS was "a new disease."

Presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye yesterday said the Department of Foreign Affairs was also set to lodge a diplomatic protest against the barring of OFWs in Taiwan, Kuwait, Lebanon and the UAE.

Asked if the Philippines might also issue a travel advisory against Singapore and Taiwan, Bunye said the matter would be looked into. "What's important is we don't overreact."

Upon receipt of information that Taiwan would continue to impose travel restrictions until around the 20th, Manila Economic and Cultural Office (Meco) chair Antonio Basilio yesterday sent a letter to the Taiwan government requesting that it reconsider the ban.

Basilio said Taiwan could not be faulted for taking such a measure, and that this was "also good for Filipino workers" since there were more SARS cases in that country. However, he said, Taiwan should have given "ample warning" before issuing the advisory.

In the meantime, Basilio said, Meco and its counterpart Taiwan Economic and Cultural Office were working together to facilitate requirements for OFWs. Currently, a worker is allowed to board his flight only upon presentation of a medical certificate that he is SARS-free. *With Dona Pazzibugan, Michael Lim Ubac, and reports from Reuters and AFP*

Traders urged to guard vs SARS

TRADE and Industry Secretary Manuel A. Roxas II is urging the country's businessmen to take precautionary measures against SARS, which could deal the economy a fatal blow.

Roxas said the government wants to avoid a situation where manufacturing plants would have to be closed if any of their employees come down with the killer pneumonia. He said several plants in China have been shut down after their employees were infected.

Roxas yesterday led a business summit on SARS which laid down a protocol to guide corporations in implementing contingency measures and information dissemination.

Roxas said this unified approach in combating SARS was important to ensure productivity in the workplace and maintain a healthy economy.

"We are worried about the huge effect of SARS on businesses, which is why we are encouraging all companies to take necessary precautions," Roxas said.

He said the killer virus has had no impact on local businesses yet since local SARS fatalities contracted the disease abroad and there has been minimal local transmission.

The companies that joined the summit reported that they have instituted the minimum requirements in fighting SARS. *Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.*

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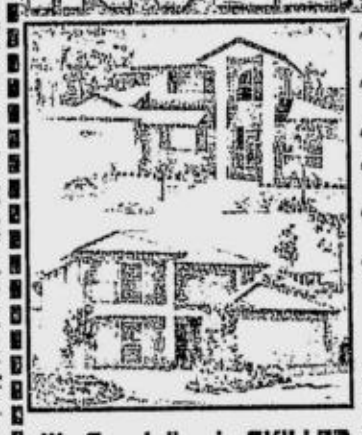
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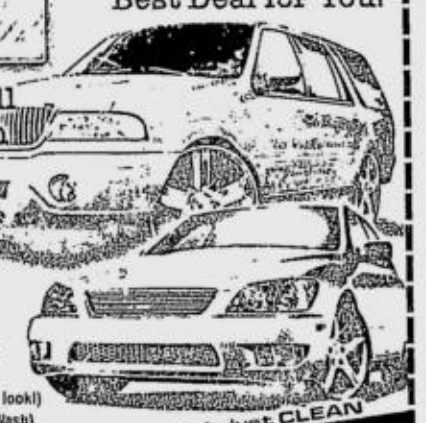
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NAIKWENTO RIN NIYA NA DATI AY HALOS PALAYASIN SIYA SA KANYANG BAHAY NA INUUPAHAN DAHIL DI SIYA MAKABAYAD, DALAWANG BESES PA SIYA NALOKO NG ILLEGAL RECRUITERS. PERO NGAYON ASINSADO NA SIYA." SI MRS. SANCHEZ NG COTABATO, MINDANAO

GMA orders multi-pronged attack vs Moro separatists

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday ordered a hard-line campaign against Muslim separatists, including a diplomatic offensive to persuade Islamic nations to stop backing the guerrillas.

"We shall combine military action, stringent legal measures, full diplomatic pressure and community preparedness to bear upon the MILF threat," Ms Macapagal said in her weekly radio address.

Her statement came after an upsurge of suspected Moro Islamic Liberation Front attacks in recent weeks that have left at least 83 people dead and hundreds wounded since March.

"I have instructed that all the terrorist acts of the MILF be fully documented and brought before the OIC," the President said, referring to the Organization of the Islamic Conference.

"We will not allow the MILF to continue fooling the Islamic world (that) it is an insurgent organization with legitimate aims. It is engaged in the murder of innocent civilians," she said.

The OIC has been fostering rapprochement between Manila and the MILF and has been monitoring the situation in Mindanao.

On Tuesday, Ms Macapagal canceled preliminary talks with the rebel group that were scheduled to open on Friday in Malaysia.

In her address, the President said the latest attacks of the MILF "were clear acts of terrorism," adding "the leadership of the MILF must answer for these crimes." She said it was pointless to continue talking unless the MILF showed sincerity in seeking peace.

'A way out'

In a separate radio interview, MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu blamed Manila for the breakdown of the talks, saying "the government has been looking for a way out. They have really wanted to abandon the peace process."

He admitted, however, that the MILF mounted attacks on military outposts but said reports of kidnappings and bombings of civilians were false or overblown.

The country's Muslim leaders on Thursday declared war on terrorism, vowing to fully support all aspects of the national government's fight against terrorists.

But officials of the Muslim Leaders Forum, a grouping of influential Muslim leaders and politicians, said President Macapagal should reconsider steps that could further derail the peace process, like tagging the MILF a terrorist organization.

"(But) as Muslims and leaders, we condemn terrorism and we support the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo on all (fronts) against terrorism," said Sultan Kudarat Gov. Pax Mangudadatu, president of the National Association of Muslim Leaders.

Other Muslim leaders lamented that government authorities have drawn a very thin line to separate terrorists from good Muslims, on the one hand, and terrorism and Islam, on the other. *Dona Z. Pazzibugan; AFP; Nash B. Maulana and Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

MILF bares choices to replace Dureza

ZAMBOANGA CITY— The Moro Islamic Liberation Front said it would prefer that former Labor Secretary Ruben Torres or former President Joseph Estrada's special projects adviser Robert Aventajado replace resigned government chief peace negotiator Jesus Dureza.

Ghazali Jaafar, MILF political affairs chief, said Torres, who served in both the Aquino and Ramos administrations, and Aventajado understand Mindanao and the Bangsamoro struggle.

"We believe he knows the problems of Mindanao because we did many things for peace during his time with Secretary Fortunato Abat in the earlier peace process," Jaafar said of Torres, President Corazon Aquino's executive secretary.

Jaafar said Aventajado, who negotiated the release of hostages held by the Abu Sayyaf, had experience in the peace process during Estrada's shortened term. "He understands the MILF," Jaafar said.

While hinting the stalled peace process would have better chances with Torres or Aventajado at the helm, Jaafar said the MILF hopes that those who are staunchly opposed to the MILF would get involved in the peace talks. *Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Erratum

IN THE STORY on military promotions last Saturday, the name of Navy Capt. Franklin Mangonon, who was promoted to Commodore, was inadvertently misspelled.

Mangonon is assistant superintindent of the Philippine Military Academy.

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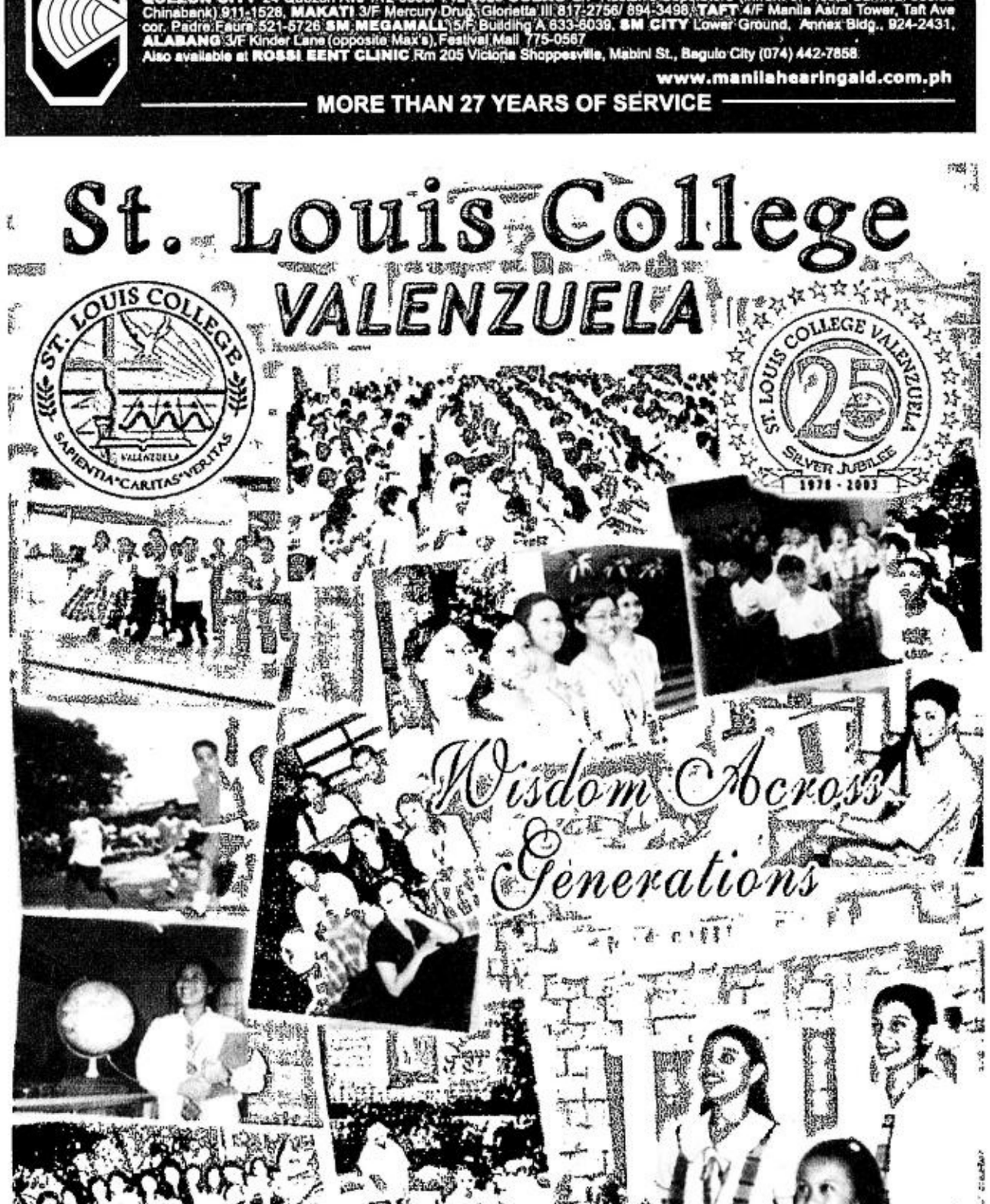

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Palace 'delighted' over rare White House invite to dinner

By Dona Pazzibugan

MALACANANG is "delighted" with the state dinner to be tendered by US President George W. Bush at the White House for visiting President Macapagal-Arroyo on May 19.

"This is a big honor for the President and our country," gushed presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye in an interview over dzMM radio yesterday.

Bunye was quick to deny, however, that the state dinner, which is not given for just any head of state, was an "extra treat" given by Bush as a reward for Ms Macapagal's all-out support for the US-led war on Iraq, despite fierce opposition at home.

He said Ms Macapagal supported the US attack "because we believe it was the right thing to do."

He continued: "And we don't expect...," but stopped before he could finish the sentence.

"We have historical ties politically, culturally and socially. And our President can be relied upon," Bunye said instead.

The state dinner is only the third to be hosted by President Bush in his administration.

Bush had earlier extended the same honors to the leaders of Mexico and Poland.

Ms Macapagal's first state visit to the US is set for May 17 to 21.

Aside from Washington, she will travel to Los Angeles and New York.

Her visit had been set for April, but was postponed because of the US-led assault on Iraq which began on March 14.

White House spokesperson Ari Fleischer has said the visit was a "thank you to the government of the Philippines, to President Macapagal and to the Filipino people for their stalwart efforts in fighting the war on terror, for being such a good and reliable ally to the United States."

The United States last year sent 1,000 troops to train Filipino soldiers in fighting Abu Sayyaf bandits in Basilan.

It will send soldiers this year to Sulu on the same mission.

WHEN YOU'RE HOT EVERYBODY LISTENS
Former senator and education secretary Raul Roco, right, has the ears of former senator Leticia Ramos-Shahani and former Pangasinan governor Oscar Orbos during the launch recently of the Reform Oriented Citizens Organization, which not surprisingly spells ROCO, at the Club Filipino in San Juan. One year before the national elections, Roco leads all other probable candidates in most surveys.

Why is GMA often in Pampanga?

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—In 34 days, President Macapagal-Arroyo has visited Pampanga five times.

Ms Macapagal was "going high profile," a mayor claimed, because her popularity in her home province had dropped.

The first of the visits, on April 5, was expected since it was her birthday, which she traditionally celebrates in Lubao, her hometown.

Three weeks later, Ms Macapagal attended her son Vice Gov. Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo's birthday lunch in Guagua, an occasion she had skipped since 2001.

On May 2, she was guest at the groundbreaking for a P20-million bridge in Angeles City. Three days later, she was back in Lubao, joining for the first time the annual observance of Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos' death anniversary.

On May 8, Ms Macapagal inaugurated two bridges in Masantol and unveiled a bust of her father, the late President Diosdado Macapagal.

Asked by the INQUIRER why she visited Pampanga more often now, the President laughed. "I will stop coming if they don't like it," she said.

At least three mayors saw a connection to Mikey's reported plan to run for governor or representative of Pampanga's second district.

Gov. Lito Lapid's son, Mark, president of the provincial Association of Barangay Captains, earlier led village leaders in urging Mikey to run for Congress. Mark, 25, reportedly has plans of running for governor. *Tonette Orejas, PDI C. Luzon Desk*

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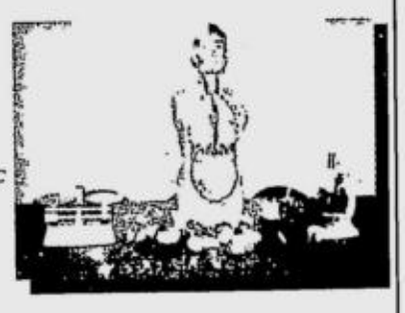

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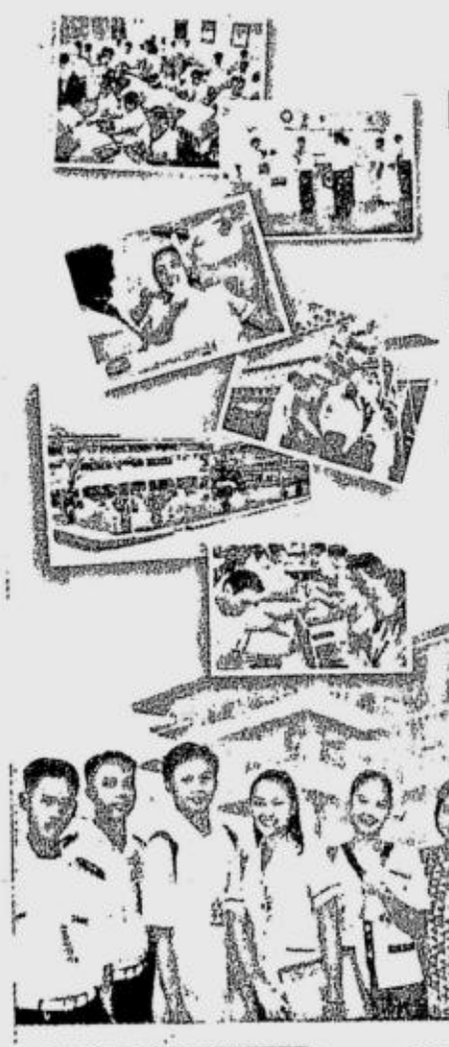

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DBM Lecture Government Electronic Procurement System	3:20 PM
Welcome Cocktails (by Invitation)	7:00 PM
16 May 2003	**(Trade Day)**
Exhibition Hours - 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM	
Maritime Breakfast Forum (by Invitation)	9:30 AM
Communication Navigation Surveillance/ Air Traffic Management (CNS/ATM) Conference	9:30 AM
Lecture on Naval/Maritime Modernization	1:00 PM
17 May 2003	**(Trade & Public Day)**
Exhibition Hours - 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM	
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18 May 2003	**(Trade & Public Day)**
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Solons want to set INC, El Shaddai 'straight' on Cha-cha

By Juliet Labog-Javellana

HOUSE officials want to meet with leaders of the Iglesia ni Cristo and El Shaddai religious sects to explain the "urgent need" to amend the 1987 Constitution this year.

Both politically influential groups had come out with a rare joint statement on Friday opposing Charter change, saying now was not the time for it.

Western Samar Rep. Eduardo Nachura, chair of the House committee on constitutional amendments, attributed the groups' opposition to a "lack of appreciation" of the reasons Charter change has been deemed necessary by the legislators.

"We will ask the House leadership to arrange a dialogue so we can explain to them the basic issues and the need for Charter change," Nachura said.

The joint statement signed by INC and El Shaddai spokespersons Bienvenido Santiago Jr. and Mel Robles, respectively, said the anti-Charter change position was reached after consultations with their members. The two groups count several million followers between them and are much sought after by politicians during elections.

Unfazed by the INC and El Shaddai's opposition, Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. called Charter change the "mother of all reforms."

De Venecia said Cha-cha could not wait since it would address the "biggest crisis of the Filipino nation," which is the perennial gridlock in Congress and the recurrence of revolts like Edsa I and II.

"This structural shift (to a unicameral parliamentary government) is in fact a movement toward political stability and the lessening of social and political tensions," De Venecia said.

Reacting to the "fast developments" regarding Cha-cha, former President Corazon Aquino called on Congress to postpone the move, saying it would only serve to further divide the nation.

"I therefore add my voice to those calling on members of Congress to set aside this issue of constitutional change until a more auspicious time and focus instead on finding ways to unite our people," Aquino said in a statement.

Aquino said she has been following "with deepening concern" developments in Congress to amend the Constitution through a constituent assembly, which would be composed of the incumbent senators and representatives. Her only son, Benigno Aquino III, sits in the House as Tarlac's representative.

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Senators favor new school sked

SENATORS Aquilino Pimentel and Manuel Villar yesterday said they were in favor of resetting the opening of classes from June to September to spare students from having to go to school during the rainy months.

President Macapagal-Arroyo had ordered the Departments of Education and Health to study the possibility of moving the school opening back, not because of the SARS scare, but because June to August are the rainiest months of the year in the country. She said these were also the months children in the provinces helped their parents in their farms.

Villar said he was for adjusting the school calendar because classes were often suspended anyway during the rainy months.

But in order for the students not to have to suffer in hot classrooms during the summer months, he said school authorities must provide a "conducive environment" for pupils in April and May.

"They (students) may be saved from the rainy months, but they must not suffer during the summer months," Villar said.

Pimentel said the President could issue an executive order changing the school calendar.

Opposition Sen. Teresita Aquino-Oreta, however, said Congress must first amend the existing law authored by former Sen. Maria Kalaw-Katigbak which sets the opening of classes in June, before Malacañang could take any action.

Christine O. Avendaño

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, May 11, 2003
4th Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 4:8-12

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, spoke up, "Leaders of the people! Elders! It is a fact that we are being examined today for a good deed done to a cripple. How was he healed? You and all the people of Israel must know that this man stands before you cured through the Name of Jesus Christ the Nazarean. You had him crucified, but God raised him from the dead. Jesus is the stone rejected by you the builders which has become the cornerstone. There is no salvation in anyone else, for there is no other Name given to humankind all over the world by which we may be saved."

2nd Reading: 1 Jn 3:1-2

See what singular love the Father has for us: we are called children of God, and we really are. This is why the world does not know us, because it did not know him.

Beloved, we are God's children and what we shall be has not yet been shown. Yet when he appears in his glory, we know that we shall be like him, for then we shall see him as he is.

Gospel: Jn 10:11-18

Jesus said, "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for the sheep. Not so the hired hand or any other person who is not the shepherd and to whom the sheep do not belong. They abandon the sheep as soon as they see the wolf coming; then the wolf snatches and scatters the sheep. This is because the hired hand works for pay and cares nothing for the sheep.

"I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, as the Father knows me and I know the Father. Because of this I give my life for my sheep.

"I have other sheep that are not of this fold. These I have to lead as well, and they shall listen to my voice. Then there will be one flock since there is one Shepherd.

"The Father loves me because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down freely. It is mine to lay down and to take up again: this mission I received from my Father."

Commentary

The Good Shepherd knows us intimately, a knowledge that his Father shares with him. Knowing the depths of our mind, heart, and soul, the Good Shepherd lays down his life for us. What secret has the Father revealed to his Son about us? What is it that Jesus is willing to die for us? What is it that the Father loves Jesus because of his sacrifice? Whatever it is, we know that the Father is mindful of us, all of us: one flock, one Shepherd. Whatever it is, we know that we are precious in sight: we are worth dying for, and it is God's only Son who dies for us! Whatever it is, the Son is not an unwilling victim: no one takes his life from him; he lays it on his own.

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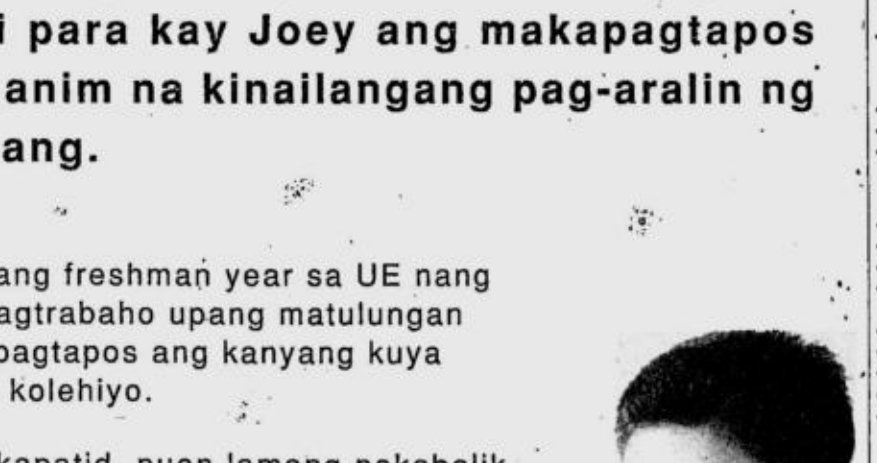
SA UE, ANG DATING UMAASA, NGAYO'Y PAG-ASA NG PAMILYA.

Alam ni Joey Onda na tanging edukasyon ang susi upang magkaroon siya ng magandang kinabukasan. Ngunit hindi naging madali para kay Joey ang makapagtapos lalo na't isa siya sa anim na kinailangang pag-aralin ng kanyang mga magulang.

- Second semester ng kanyang freshman year sa UE nang huminto ng pag-aaral at nagtrabaho upang matulungan ang mga magulang na mapagtapos ang kanyang kuya na nasa huling taon na ng kolehiyo.
- Nang maka-graduate ang kapatid, nuon lamang nakabalik sa kanyang pag-aaral sa UE. Nagsumikap at naging full scholar sa kanyang junior at senior years.
- Nagtapos ng BS Computer Science na Magna Cum Laude nuong April 2002. Agad nakakuha ng trabaho bilang Oracle computer programmer sa isang leading firm sa Makati.

Ang dating umaasa sa kanyang mga magulang, ngayon ay pag-asa na ng kanyang pamilya.

Mga tulad ni Joey ang natutulungan ng edukasyong mula sa UE — ang mga may sipag, determinasyon at talino upang makamtan ang kanilang mga pangarap.



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SARS BRIEFS

HK officials take new tack vs virus

HONG KONG health officials have adjusted their treatment of SARS patients after studies showed the virus struck in three stages, each lasting approximately seven days. In the first phase the virus replicates. The next—the immune hyperactive phase—is when the body's immune system is activated and fights the virus so vigorously that the lungs are damaged. The last phase is pulmonary destruction, or lung scarring. The controversial anti-viral drug Ribavirin will continue to be used during the first stage of the illness. But in some cases the protease inhibitor Kaletra will be used singly or in combination with Ribavirin to tackle virus replication. Steroids will now be used during the second rather than the first stage to reduce the drug load on patients.

* * *

THE WORLD Health Organization warned that the SARS outbreak was becoming more serious in Taipei because officials cannot track down the infection source for a high number of people—a sign the Taiwanese are losing control of the disease. Health officials questioned almost 500 people quarantined in a Taipei housing complex and municipal workers checked water and sewage pipes in the neighborhood as fears spread of a mass infection of SARS. Taipei's mayor announced that passengers on the Mass Rapid Transit rail system would be required to wear masks beginning today.

* * *

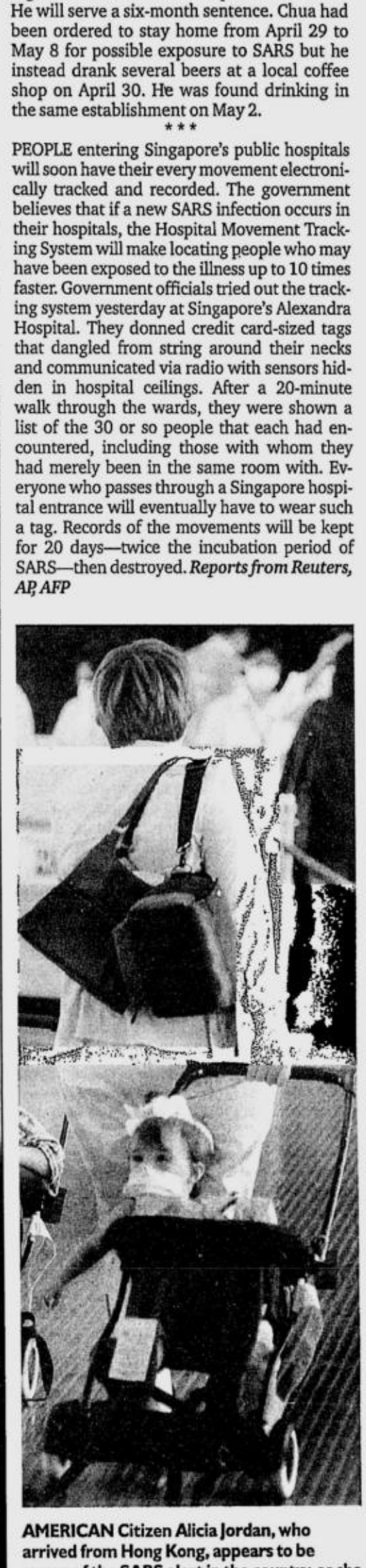
THE WHO said vital Chinese data on the SARS epidemic in Beijing remain unknown, such as when and from whom patients caught the disease. This leaves the WHO and local authorities groping in darkness, as it makes it impossible to map precisely how the virus spread in the city of 13 million. Most glaringly, authorities have no idea where half the city's more than 2,000 patients contracted SARS. China yesterday reported five new SARS deaths and 85 new cases.

* * *

A 50-YEAR-OLD man, Chua Hock Seng, was the first culprit arrested under tough new Singaporean quarantine laws after twice violating a SARS-related home quarantine order. He will serve a six-month sentence. Chua had been ordered to stay home from April 29 to May 8 for possible exposure to SARS but he instead drank several beers at a local coffee shop on April 30. He was found drinking in the same establishment on May 2.

* * *

PEOPLE entering Singapore's public hospitals will soon have their every movement electronically tracked and recorded. The government believes that if a new SARS infection occurs in their hospitals, the Hospital Movement Tracking System will make locating people who may have been exposed to the illness up to 10 times faster. Government officials tried out the tracking system yesterday at Singapore's Alexandra Hospital. They donned credit card-sized tags that dangled from string around their necks and communicated via radio with sensors hidden in hospital ceilings. After a 20-minute walk through the wards, they were shown a list of the 30 or so people that each had encountered, including those with whom they had merely been in the same room with. Everyone who passes through a Singapore hospital entrance will eventually have to wear such a tag. Records of the movements will be kept for 20 days—twice the incubation period of SARS—then destroyed. *Reports from Reuters, AP, AFP*



AMERICAN Citizen Alicia Jordan, who arrived from Hong Kong, appears to be aware of the SARS alert in the country, as she protects her child with a mask while walking at the concourse of the Naia toward the quarantine officer. ROGER MARGALLO

SARS shows weaker sex

From page A1

hospitals.

An analysis of Singapore's nine-week-long SARS outbreak released last Friday showed that 66 percent of probable SARS victims were women.

"I am not surprised that two-thirds of the victims are women for a very simple reason. In a family, who looks after you the most? It's your mother," Balakrishnan said.

He made this observation as he noted that today is Mother's Day.

"In a hospital setting, who are the people who have the closest contact with you? It's usually not the doctor. It's the nurse or the health care attendant who's attending to your every need," he said.

Although women outnumbered men in contracting the disease, more than half of those who died were men, the study said. SARS has killed 27 people in Singapore.

The report, prepared by the World Health Organization and Singapore's Health Ministry, did not explain the higher death rate for men.

Balakrishnan, who serves on Singapore's SARS "Combat Unit," said health officials have yet to analyze the findings "scientifically to any significant depth."

"As to why (women) seem to do better than men," he said, "we don't have scientific evidence on that yet, but we do know that women are the stronger sex biologically." *AP*

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Place P28-B Meralco refund in escrow, consumers demand

By Ronnel Domingo and Abigail Ho

ACCUSING the government of "babying" the Manila Electric Co. with a lenient refund schedule, consumer groups yesterday demanded that the entire amount of about P28 billion due customers be deposited in an escrow account.

Pete Ilagan, president of the National Association of Electricity Consumers for Reforms, said in an interview that the money should be removed from Meralco's hands while the company "fine-tuned" the mode of refund.

On Friday, Malacañang announced that power consumers would get back the excess charges starting July, and that those who used only up to 100 kilowatt-hours a month were first in line.

'In trust'

Ilagan said his group supported the Energy Regulatory Commission's swift action in favor of "poor" customers. But while the next step was still being discussed, he said, the money should be "removed" from Meralco's hands, since "this was merely held in trust."

He said this was the condition given nine years ago by the ERC's predecessor, the Energy Regulatory Board, when it granted Meralco provisional authority (PA) to raise rates by 18.4 centavos per kWh.

The PA provided that, should the ERB arrive at a computation smaller than this, Meralco should return the excess collection to customers. In 1998, the ERC ruled that the utility firm was entitled to a raise of only 1.7 centavos per kWh.

Interest

"An escrow fund of P28 billion—with maybe a five-percent interest—could earn P1.5 billion a year," Ilagan pointed out. "This could be added to the money to be paid back customers."

He said the initial refund schedule announced last Friday involved only about P1.8 billion and would benefit some 1.3 million customers who would get P354 to P1,487.

"Why is the government treating Meralco like a baby?" Ilagan said.

The group People Opposed to Warrantless Electricity Rates said Meralco should immediately stop collecting the excess 16.7 centavos per kWh, which "represents income tax expenses passed on to customers."

In its proposal to the ERC filed May 8, Meralco said small consumers could either collect their cash from Meralco branch offices, or have the refund credited to future consumption.

Meralco president Jesus Francisco said Meralco was inclined to adopt a similar scheme for the above-average residential users, or those who use 101 to 500 kWh monthly.

For commercial and industrial customers, he said, Meralco will ask the ERC for a nine-year refund period.

H. Dado; 74

HERMINIA Duran Dado, mother of INQUIRER personnel officer Thillie D. Panlilio, died yesterday at the age of 74.

Aside from Thillie and her husband Louie Panlilio, she is survived by her other children Malou and Noel Pascual, Leo and Gloria Dado, Mharmie and Ollie Merida, Cherrie and Don Dalupang, Rhey and Ethel Dado, and Dan and Rhol Dado.

Her remains lie at the Funeraria Paz on G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City. Interment will be announced later.

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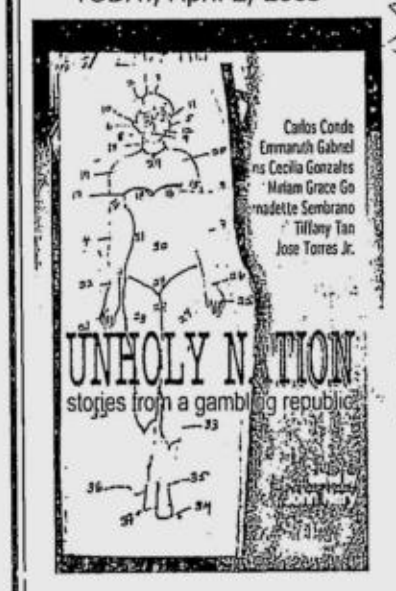

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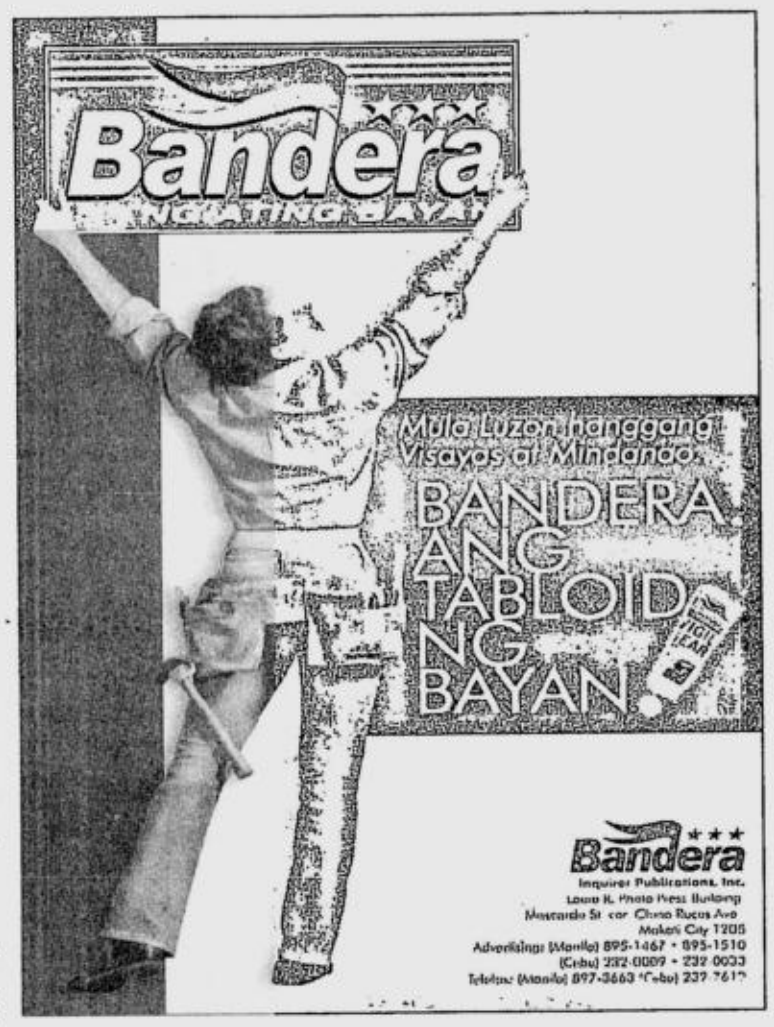
Contact Ian at 9213984 to confirm your attendance.



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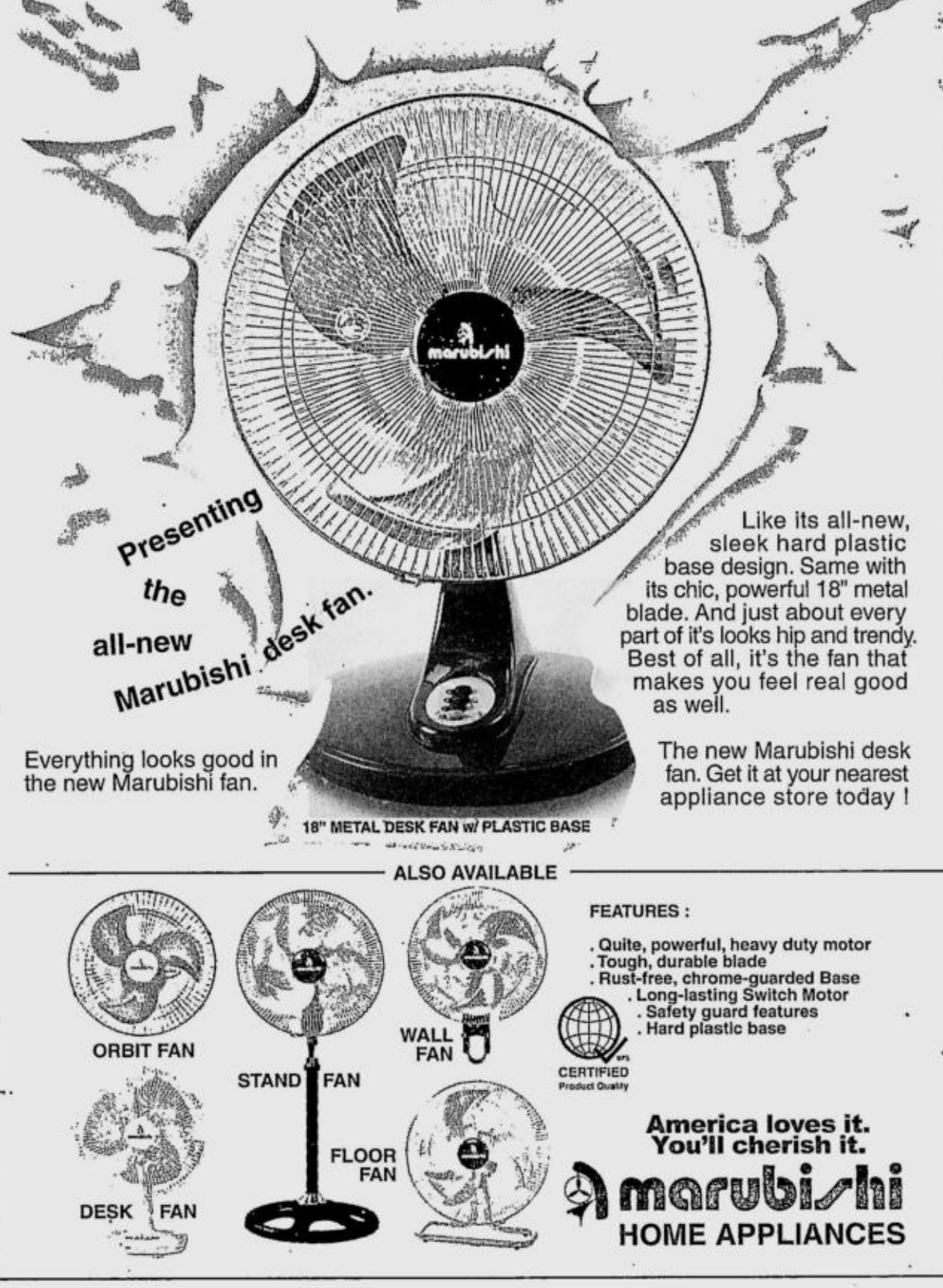

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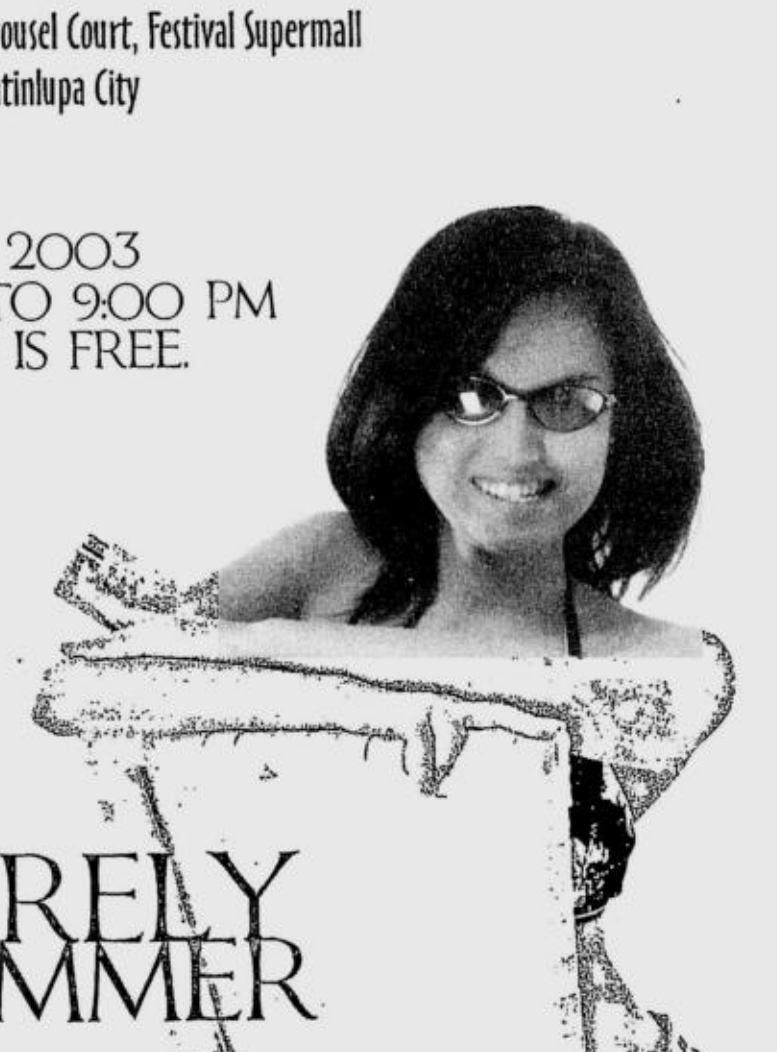

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Everymother

WHAT a relief. Now that "personal publicist" and journalism school founder Dante Ang is no longer walking the corridors of power in Malacañang, the government no longer refers to President Macapagal-Arroyo as the mother of the nation.

For all we know, the temptation to do so—especially today, when the world celebrates Mother's Day—may still be there, and it is all the President's handlers can do to stop themselves. The presidential palace, after all, is a place where inconvenient reality is often not high enough to stop vaulting ambition. The noises coming from the bowels of Malacañang, over the plan by some Lakas party members to convince the President to change her mind about not running in 2004, are only the latest proof.

EDITORIAL

Why was the "Ina ng Bayan" campaign, on the face of it only a government-funded annoyance, actually dangerous for democracy?

Because personality cults start out in the same myth-making way. Achievements are exaggerated, or character traits magnified, in order to impress a leader's chosen role in the people's mind. The fabricated guerrilla exploits of Ferdinand Marcos, for instance, were used to consolidate his assumed role as protector of the people, a role demanded by the national-security regime he had himself created.

Ang's "Ina ng Bayan" plan, however, proposed to skip the achievement or character step altogether and jump right into role-playing. But the Palace handlers misread the situation. After the gambling and drinking excesses of the Estrada administration, an outraged public wanted a return to decency, to normalcy. Filipinos wanted a President who reported for work day in and day out, who did not waste the government's resources, who could be trusted to sacrifice her interests for the good of the nation.

Ang and the President's handlers interpreted these requirements to mean the country needed a parental figure of both authority and sympathy. They reinvented the President as Everymother. As the dismal feedback from the campaign immediately made clear, however, the public was unimpressed.

This was just as well. The whole notion that a sitting chief executive can also serve as the mother of the nation is ultimately anti-democratic.

It is possible for an entire polity to think of itself as a family. Hence, taking our cue from the Americans, we call those who drafted the Constitution our "founding fathers." Politicians running for office speak of the "brotherhood of man." Even the nickname the country gave Corazon Aquino, especially in the heady days after Edsa 1986, assumed a unity that could only be called familial: "Tita" Cory.

But "Ina ng Bayan?" The phrase has overtones of heroism; it is the sort of honorific Filipinos will readily give to someone like Teodora Alonso, Rizal's long-suffering mother. Applied to an incumbent politician, it quickly becomes grandiose, a title somebody shameless like Imelda Marcos would crown herself with.

Of course, as Hitler's propaganda minister discovered in the 1930s, a lie repeated often enough may in time be mistaken for truth. This is how personality cults are built: one lie, one-half truth, at a time. And, as we have learned during the Marcos dictatorship, personality cults do not serve democracy's ends. Rather, the institutions of democracy are used to serve the leader's interests. (Many of the countries run by dictators today have the words "People" or "Democratic" in their names.) To hide this reversal of functions from the public, those in power use the myths they have created (the war hero, the revolutionary, perhaps in time even the mother of the nation) to blur the line between fact and fiction.

But there is another reason why the "Ina ng Bayan" campaign was fraught with risk. It would have caused the President to pull her punches, restrained her from making the necessary hard decisions. If there is one thing that every Filipino must learn about the promises and processes of democracy, it is that there is something bigger than one's own family. In a culture where corruption is endemic, the needs of the family are used as the all-purpose excuse for wrongdoing, from accepting bribes (the family needs the extra income) to coddling lawbreakers (the family protects its own).

In this culture, an Everymother won't be seen as someone who upholds the law, but as someone who bends it.

Only in the Philippines

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

REMEMBER that audacious fellow who, some months ago, unbolted the park benches in the Luneta, hauled them into waiting trucks and merrily sped away without the police knowing about his hi-jinks until the morning after? How he intended to use those not-easily-concealed benches or to whom, if any, he intended to sell them remains an interesting and amusing question.

But the greater mystery is how this felon was able to conduct his operation, which took some time and in a very public and widely-visited place, without the authorities being able to detect and abort it. The culprit was eventually arrested and the stolen property recovered, but the sheer effrontery of that preposterous offense deserves no less than a Hollywood B picture.

Now there is this report in the May 2 issue of this paper that graft charges have been filed against some officials in the Bureau of Fire Protection for the disappearance of 29—repeat, 29—fire trucks, each originally valued at no less than P1 million. The explanation given was that they had become useless and beyond repair. One was being occupied by a squatter family, and 13 others had been sold as junk for P27,000 each, but there is no information as to who got the proceeds of the sale. The other 15 are unaccounted for.

Fire trucks are exceptionally big motor vehicles, and the disappearance of only one of them should attract attention and wonderment, let alone suspicion. Yet it was only after a year-end inventory for 2002 was conducted that the loss of all 29 of these vehicles was discovered and exposed. Had no fire occurred before then to make people ask about the absent fire trucks? Those who had connived to clandestinely dispose of them probably believed no one would notice their disappearance.

It should be easy enough to steal and hide small valuable objects like jewelry and money, but big things like park benches and especially fire trucks surely cannot be as deftly spirited away. Yet some criminals are so reckless, or so arrogant, as to think they can openly commit crimes under the very noses of the police and get away with it. Unfortunately, they often do. They seem to have no fear of being apprehended by the generally inept agents—who are often actually flouters—of the law they are supposed to enforce.

Sometime ago, there was the alarming report that a gang of robbers entered a restaurant and emptied its cash register. Not content with their haul, they also relieved its customers of their valuables, then fled smugly without pursuit. Only two nights later, the same thing happened in another restaurant, and the police were again caught flat-footed as the hold-uppers casually escaped. Some suspect, not without reason, that the law agents were in cahoots with the robbers and took no steps to prevent the heist so they could share part of the loot.

Can people no longer go out and eat in peace without being robbed openly, and under bright lights at that, as if they were in a dark alley in some forsaken skid row? The plush hotels may be relatively safe, for now, but ordinary people cannot afford the expensive menu, or even only the cover charge.

There was a report in the Internet from a lady who says that while they were stalled in traffic in the service road of the South superhighway one night, a gang of thieves tried to open their locked car to get a cellphone from her companion. One of the men fired at her through the windshield, missing her face by inches, but they were able to drive away unharmed—how, I can't imagine—except for shattered nerves.

They went directly to the police station to report the incident and were told theirs was the sixth similar complaint they had received so far. Sixth, and still counting? So why where the police not patrolling the dangerous area to prevent further harm to the motorists? Were the lawmen simply waiting to receive more complaints in the safety and comfort of their headquarters?

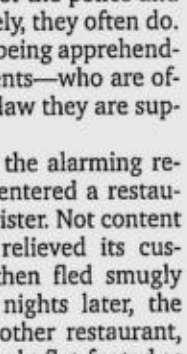
The latest miracle is the resolution of a special committee of the Commission on Audit justifying the construction of a 2.3 kilometer stretch of the Diosdado Macapagal Boulevard at a cost of P837.3 million compared to the much lower costs charged for other parts of the boulevard by a different construction company. The details and analysis of the questioned contract, which the committee declared as "not untenable," are discussed in the INQUIRER's editorial the other Friday. I urge everybody to read it and share our rage over that untenable resolution.

What can we expect when everything seems to be going wrong in this country? Our lady President is an ineffective commander in chief, the congressmen want to be convention delegates when they cannot even be efficient legislators, the Senate is going to investigate drug addiction in the PBA when it has not yet resolved the Lacson case, and many actions filed years ago against the Marcoses are still gathering dust in the dockets of the courts, including the Supreme Court. The government is unable to stop even the graffiti on the walls that are growing by the hour and soon there will be election posters again to add to the squalor of the land.

Are we a hopeless people? Of course not—but we have to prove we are not. The first step is to change our present leaders and choose more idealistic and competent exemplars who can bring us at last to a better future. That is a tremendous task, but it is not impossible.

Not for hire

MOMENTS



Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

SOMEONE once said that when you are worried and cannot sleep, try counting sheep. A Christmas carol goes further and says that when you're weary and cannot sleep, count your blessings instead of sheep. But the best advice is the one which says that when you're weary and cannot sleep, instead of counting your blessings or sheep, try talking to the Shepherd instead.

* * *

In today's Gospel (Jn. 10, 11-18) Jesus introduces Himself to us as the Good Shepherd. The bottom line is that He is a good shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. In other words, He is not a shepherd for hire, but a shepherd for life. He is a shepherd not for the money or for the show, but for real.

* * *

Jesus could have called Himself the Good Manager, but he chose to be called the Good Shepherd. Why? Because a good manager is simply that—one who manages. It is not that a manager is lacking in zeal; a manager, more often than not, is a hard worker. In fact, a manager is so overwhelmed with work at times that he can hardly manage (no pun intended).

* * *

The first thing about the shepherd is that he has time or he makes time for his sheep. While a manager will find ways and means to manage his time, the shepherd is committed to be really present all the time, if not, most of the time. For a true shepherd, presence is something that is non-negotiable and cannot be delegated.

* * *

The second thing about a shepherd is that he gives quality time. The manager, precisely because he is in the business of managing, will sometimes go to the extent of managing even people, their feelings, their perceptions. He tries to "make up for lost time." But sooner or later, his lack of commitment and dedication will show. Yes, a manager can fool some people sometimes, but he soon finds out that he cannot fool all the people, all the time.

The good shepherd, on the other hand, goes about his task with no stress and in peace precisely because he knows, and his people know, that he is really there for them.

* * *

The third thing about a shepherd is that he works overtime. A manager, precisely because he is a manager, is very calculating and exacting of time. For a manager, time is a precious commodity that is seen in terms of productivity and output. His constant battle cry is accomplishing the most, with the least effort and within the shortest time. He will rarely go for overtime.

The shepherd, on the other hand, sees time also as a precious commodity, but in terms of input and love. He does not take short-cuts. He waits patiently. And he does not mind working overtime. He really doesn't have a battle cry. He only has a song: "What is time without love? What is love without time?"

* * *

The final thing about a shepherd is that he'll be there "till the end of time." A manager is concerned about projects, deadlines, return on investments, quotas and timetables. He is for the "short time" only.

A shepherd, on the other hand, is committed for the long haul. His project is for a lifetime. His deadline is eternity. His return on investment is out of this world, and his timetable is forever. He is for the "long time." He is for daily dying to self and even for death itself. He is for forever.

* * *

So, who are you, a manager or a shepherd? Whatever you are—a parent, a teacher, a priest, a pastor, religious leader, a government leader—the choice is yours. You can be a wise and effective manager, or a good and loving shepherd. It would be ideal to be both.

And do you know who among us comes closest to the ideal? A mother! Happy Mother's Day! May God bless all mothers who are not only wise and effective managers but good and loving shepherds as well.

* * *

They say that on the sixth day of creation, God had to work overtime. Why? Because he had to work extra hard to meet all the specifications and requirements for a person who will become a mother, one who will be responsible for many super-human tasks and lots of super-human loving. The final touch was when He gave mothers a heart so close to His Heart and so like His Heart.

* * *

"So many gods, so many creeds, so many paths to take. So many speeches, so many opinions... While just the art of being kind is all this sad world needs." I don't know where this quotation came from, but I think I will not be far from the mark when I say that this came from a mother's heart.

* * *

Today, let us remember our mothers wherever they are. With all their difficulties and limitations, they somehow managed to raise us and provide for our future. Only God knows what love and sacrifices they have done. Today, let us remember them and pray for them with deep gratitude.

For those of who are so lucky to still have mothers around, please tell them how much you love and appreciate them. A visit, a phone call, a gift, or simply a hug will make the most wonderful person in the world smile. And don't forget also the mother of us all, the Blessed Mother, our Mother for all time.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to be a person generous with time and quality time, and to love overtime for a lifetime, till the end of time. Amen.

Independent body needed for Burnham charges

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

REVELATIONS in Gracia Burnham's book, "In the Presence of My Enemies," alleging collusion between the Abu Sayyaf and some military officers, have seriously eroded the AFP's credibility not just in the country but also in the international community. It was Fr. Cirilo Nacorda, parish priest of Lamitan, Basilan, who first raised the charges of collusion and payoffs between the Abu Sayyaf and the military.

Two congressional bodies investigated the accusations and came out with different conclusions. The House committee on national defense chaired by Surigao del Sur Rep. Prospero Pichay found no evidence of collusion between the two groups. On the other hand, the Senate committees on defense and on human rights recommended the court martial of three officers: Brig. Gen. Romeo Dominguez, Col. Juvenal Narcise and Maj. Eliseo Campued.

However, it is interesting to note that after the investigation done by both bodies, Brig. Gen. Romeo Dominguez was promoted to the rank of major general (two stars) and this promotion was subsequently confirmed by a bicameral body, the Commission on Appointments (CA). Now, if the senators had recommended court-martial proceedings for Dominguez, they could have easily blocked his confirmation during the CA hearings. What's the point in recommending his court-martial if they were prepared to go along with his promotion?

* * *

Last Thursday, President Macapagal-Arroyo's spokesperson, Ignacio Bunye, said that she is leaving it up to the military to address Burnham's charges.

Unfortunately, it is the military establishment which is under fire and the last thing our people will believe would be the findings of the AFP Inspector General or any other body set up by the Armed Forces to carry out an investigation.

A day later, the President decided on a different course of action, this time ordering the Departments of Justice and of Foreign Affairs to conduct a probe of Burnham's claims of collusion between the military and the Abu Sayyaf.

These departments are part of the executive branch of government. They may not be the most impartial bodies to investigate a case of this nature. Whether we like it or not, the proceedings are going to be monitored by the international community. Using government agencies to conduct the probe may be perceived as laying the groundwork for a whitewash.

In rescue operations for the Dos Palmas hostages covering a period of 377 days, the Armed Forces lost 45 soldiers. If only to honor their memory, it becomes important for our people to know if some officer indeed conspired to get part of any ransom money at the cost of many lives and if so, to bring him to justice.

With this in mind, perhaps the President as commander in chief, should consider setting up an independent probe body, possibly a commission, to look into the Burnham charges. The body could be headed by a retired Supreme Court justice, with other members coming from the private sector. A lot of groundwork has already been done by previous investigations. What is needed is a fresh outlook and perhaps Burnham's disclosures could provide a starting point for reviewing the matter.

* * *

Every now and then, a particular class from the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) puts its stamp on the Armed Forces' command and control structure. Among the pre-war (i.e., World War II) classes, we had class 1940 and 1941. The post-war group had class 1951, 1957 and 1962.

Now it is the class of 1970 that rules the roost at General Headquarters, AFP. The three ranking officers at GHQ come from this class.

The newly appointed chief of staff, Gen. Narciso Lazo Abaya, graduated from West Point with the class of 1971 but he started as a plebe at the PMA with the class of 1970. It was only during his second year at Fort Del Pilar that he was sent to the US Military Academy, which means that he underwent plebehood twice.

Abaya is the second native of Ilocos Sur to make it as chief of staff in recent years. The last one was Gen. Diomedio Villanueva, now the postmaster general. Mrs. Abaya is the former Susan Panlasigui, also of Ilocos Sur and the granddaughter of the late dean Isidro Panlasigui of the UP College of Education. General Abaya is the first cousin of Cavite Rep. Plaridel Abaya, a close friend of former DENR Secretary Heherson Alvarez.

The vice chief of staff is Lt. Gen. Rodolfo C. Garcia, also of class 1970, who hails from San Jose del Monte, Bulacan. His father, Lt. Nicanor Orendain Garcia, served with the 10th Battalion Combat Team which was sent to Korea in the 1950s. Garcia was a division commander in Mindanao and later on in Isabela before taking over as head of the Northern Luzon Command. Earlier, he was the Armed Forces attaché at the Philippine Embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia, from 1990 to 1993, and also served as AFP deputy chief of staff for operations (J-3).

The third man in the lineup is Lt. Gen. Ernesto Carolina, a Manila boy from Sampaloc who is the deputy chief of staff. He comes from a large family of nine brothers and sisters, and takes great pride in the humble origin of his parents who were able to see all their children through school, eventually ending up as professionals in different fields. His last posting before GHQ was as head of the Southern Command in Mindanao.

The commanding general of the Philippine Air Force, Lt. Gen. Nestor Santillan, also belongs to PMA class of 1970.

Forgotten persona in cancelled contracts

COMMENTARY

Raul J. Palabrica

THIS week was a big letdown for the businessmen who invested in the construction of Terminal 3 of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport and the reclamation project on Manila Bay.

The week started with the Supreme Court nullifying the contracts covering Terminal 3 for being contrary to our laws on public bidding, build-operate-transfer, foreign investments and banking. Three days later, it ruled with finality that the transactions entered into in connection with the reclaimed land were unconstitutional because they violate the ban on the alienation of the country's natural resources.

In reaction to the decisions, President Macapagal-Arroyo instructed the justice department to prosecute the government officials who signed the contracts for the two projects that were voided by the tribunal.

Amid the controversy surrounding the two megabuck transactions, hardly any mention has been made of the private and government lawyers who prepared and endorsed the signing of the now declared anomalous agreements.

The two projects involve complex financial and legal issues. Aside from Philippine law, the laws of Germany and Thailand were material to the transactions. For the Terminal 3 project, German law was relevant because of the involvement of German airport operator Fraport AG. Thai law, on the other hand, was crucial to land developer Amari Coastal Bay Development Corp. since the majority of its shares are owned by Thai citizens.

Legal advice

Without a doubt, the local and foreign businessmen involved in the aborted projects consulted Filipino lawyers before they parted with their money. No investor in his right mind would release his check unless he's sure his contract is legitimate and his investment is assured of profitable returns.

Without the clearance of the legal advisers of the Philippine International Airport Terminals Co. and Fraport AG to the contracts that were found defective by the tribunal, there is no way the two companies would have released the funds to complete the construction of Terminal 3.

By the same token, Amari would not have mobilized its financial resources to reclaim parts of Manila Bay and entered into contracts with interested lot owners had its lawyers not assured them that the sale of the reclaimed areas does not violate our Constitution.

For contracts of this nature, where the technical, financial and legal aspects have to be synchronized and spelled out with delicate precision to prevent questions of interpretation in the future, only the best and the brightest in the legal profession are given the opportunity to render their services.

Securing the opinion of counsel before releasing the funds is standard operating procedure for substantial financial transactions, especially if they involve cross-border laws. Without the lawyers' imprimatur, no money usually changes hands. Considering the impact of their advice, the lawyers are expected to study thoroughly the applicable laws and put in place all the safeguards needed to protect the interests of their clients. For those efforts and for putting the lawyers' prestige behind the advice, the attorney's fees do not come cheap.

Same process

Government offices follow a similar procedure. Under the law, government officials are obliged to consult their in-house lawyers or, if they have none, the Office of the Solicitor General or Government Corporate Counsel, as the case may be, before they sign any contract that bind their offices to perform certain duties and responsibilities, more so, if they involve the expenditure of public funds.

The late DOTC Secretary Arturo Enrile, and those who came after him, would not have signed the amended agreements with Piatco had their legal advisers not told them that everything was aboveboard. Ditto for the general manager of the Public Estates Authority when he formalized the award of the reclamation project to Amari and authorized it to offer the reclaimed areas to interested buyers.

Can the lawyers advise their clients not to sign the contracts if they think they are flawed? Of course, they can. In the case of private lawyers, that's precisely the reason their services were engaged in the first place. They are supposed to seek out the items in the contracts that may be adverse to their clients' interests and recommend the proper remedial measures.

That is the ideal situation. But when the client is dead-set on entering into the agreement because of the expected financial windfall and the attorney's fees for concluding the transaction are too big to ignore, the standards of diligence and sound legal advice sometimes tend to be forgotten.

The compromising stance becomes an attractive course of action when the lawyers entertain the idea that, with the right government connections, they can throw caution to the wind without putting at risk the interests of their clients.

Protective memo

Compared to their counterparts in the private sector, government lawyers are better situated when it comes to raising the red flag if they find flaws in the contracts they review. Their security of tenure allows them to be more open in advising their bosses on questionable contracts.

If their advice is ignored, they can submit a memo explaining the reasons for their opposition to the signing of those contracts. The memo will come in handy in case, like what has happened in the airport terminal and reclamation projects, the contracts are later declared null and void or anomalous by competent authority. The story is different if they knew about the flaws but kept their mouth shut for one reason or another. They may have to explain how the contracts got past their desk.

Of course, when push comes to shove, the lawyers can plead that they cannot be held accountable for the consequences of their legal advice because their clients could take it or leave it. That it is not as if they put a gun to the head of their principals and told them to sign the contracts even if they were illegal or immoral.

The problem with this argument is it ignores the fact that it is precisely because of the lawyers' legal expertise that their services are retained and paid either by way of attorney's fees or government salary. If medical practitioners can be held liable for the fatal results of erroneous diagnosis or medicine prescription, there is no reason to exempt lawyers from being held to the same criteria of responsibility.

Accountability, after all, is an integral element of professional work.

Life lessons

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

AN OLD teacher once told me that if it weren't for the fact that she'd been given 12 children, she would have ended up a vastly different person. The daughter of a wealthy land-owning couple, she had grown up privileged and comfortable and rather self-centered. Even marriage to a struggling newsman would not have changed her, she said, and if she had only one or two or three children, her basic nature would still have asserted itself.

"But when you have 12 children to raise and nurture, you learn to rise above yourself and discover other priorities in life," she remarked. And sure enough, in her work as a teacher, she ended up "mothering" so many more students who came to find in her not just a teacher of generosity and inspiration, but also a woman after whom to model life and spirit.

Thankfully, what I have learned since then is that I didn't need 12 children to teach me how to be a mother, or how motherhood changes you. Whether two or 12, natural, adopted or taken under your wing, at whatever age—children invariably introduce you to a new version of yourself, one you may not even be aware of, until you wake up one morning and realize you're no longer the person you once thought yourself to be.

It works insidiously. The first time, you expect the so-called mothering instinct to well up in your chest in the same way emotions are triggered by sentimental movie scenes. But the reality is that you are often too fagged out and weary to feel anything the first time your baby is placed in your arms. (These days, it's more likely a few seconds after natural birth, when the tiny form is still wet and slick and covered with blood and mucus.) And when you take your child home, the first night is more likely than not fraught with fear and nervousness, uncertainty and pain from the episiotomy.

* * *

PERHAPS it's this first night that teaches you the first lesson: that you will need to draw from deep and maybe even immeasurable reserves of strength if you are to ensure the survival of your child.

I don't know when it is exactly a mother falls in love with her child. For me, it happens usually in the first few weeks, when my children were small and helpless and sweet-smelling, with no need for baby cologne or powder to exude the scent of innocence. It is their fragrance I remember most, maybe the thing that drew me to them constantly, that made me want to pick them up and hold them close, regardless of older women's advice that too much holding would spoil them rotten.

Other mothers have confessed that they couldn't relate to their children until they became more active, or at least learned to lock eyes with them or smile back. Certainly, a baby between four and six months is a delight. A pediatrician said in a baby-care book that five-month old babies are her special treat, for they are still too young to make a fuss when a stranger picks them up, and yet involved enough with the world to respond with laughter when someone makes a connection.

* * *

BEING a mother, you learn not only how to look after another human being who depends on you for sustenance, entertainment and comfort. You also learn to find rewards in the little things, for in the first years, the good things come in small doses, rare and sometimes disguised.

You learn to find satisfaction in a sleepy smile as your colicky baby finally shuts his eyes after waking you up five times in a single night. You learn inventive ways to concoct lullabies and simple games, like asking a series of silly questions that both you and your daughter know the answers to but which you still pursue because that is part of the game.

Your life becomes narrowly focused, and for the first few years, you will have little time for current affairs or politics. Mothers interviewed on the "Oprah" show say the most difficult part of their new calling is the "loneliness," when they are left alone for the greater part of the day, marooned in their suburban fortresses and cut off from the rest of the world save for the TV which is their umbilical cord to adult interaction and sanity.

So maybe our natural gregariousness as Filipinos is a saving grace. Drive through any congested settlement and you will find, especially in the mornings, clumps of mothers (and some bare-chested fathers) with children in their arms or toddling at their feet, taking in the sun and trading gossip. Neighbors look after the children in the community, yelling to each other across the low fences when one child nearly gets swiped by a jeepney, or loudly scolding a misbehaving truant.

* * *

WHAT have I learned from nearly 25 years of mothering? That there's no need or use in sweating the small stuff, since you never know what it is your children will remember of you anyway. Will it be your priceless recipe for grilled cheese sandwich, or the fact that you once made the two of them eat lunch at the corner restaurant everyday one summer when there was no maid? The way you try to chase down every last item on their *pasalubong* list, or your frequent absences?

You learn over time that motherhood exercises unexpected and little-used muscles, like the heart and brain. And believe me, as children grow older they will challenge you emotionally and intellectually, testing your capacity for tolerating the strange and unusual, the infuriating and the hurting.

Finally, the biggest lesson of all is that motherhood is a job you can never resign from. It is, as someone once said, allowing your heart to henceforth walk outside of your body. There is no knowing where your heart will go or take you while it takes the form of your children. But always it will be a new place, with new lessons to teach you.

Mothers from another time

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

THERE are things about our mothers we may never understand. Sometimes they act and manifest values so contrary to good sense that we wonder if we know them at all. In their ripe age, they may continue to be haunted by the insecurities of their time, wrapping left-over food in old newspaper and stuffing it into the refrigerator, storing rusty tin cans of corned beef and sardines in the cabinet, or bundling up old clothes in large plastic bags, as if preparing for end times. Their seasonal generosity will often conceal an unrelenting frugality, mirroring a level of personal deprivation so thoroughly inconsistent with their actual means.

My mother outlived my father by 20 years. She had saved enough money in those 20 years to allow her to travel, eat good food, buy some nice clothes and live comfortably. She traveled to the United States to visit some of her children only once. She came home after only a few months, finding life in America too monotonous. She preferred to live in the old house in Betis where all her children were born. There she maintained a minimalist life, selling ice candy and tending a *sari-sari* store in front of her house.

In her sickbed, my mother told us that she had saved all the dollars that her children in America had sent her over the years. She was hoping the money, which she hid in a pocket of her favorite bag, would be enough to pay for her coffin, funeral service and a place in the cemetery. I was stunned when I heard this. Of course, we knew this was just her final way of telling us she didn't want to impose on any of us.

She had accumulated some money in a time deposit she hardly touched. One time, without letting any of us know, she gave a portion of these savings to a money-lender in our town who promised her quick and handsome returns. She was paid a monthly interest. When she became ill, my mother tried to get her money back, but the moneylender told her that the man who borrowed her savings had not returned from Saudi Arabia. The whole thing embarrassed her so much she could not tell anyone in the family. Finally, after a year, she informed one of my brothers, who is a lawyer, so he could draft a demand letter, but he had to promise he would not tell the rest of us. She never recovered her money.

From her remaining savings she drew what she needed to pay for her medicines, tests and occasional confinement at the hospital. She entrusted her bank book to one of my sisters, confident that from year to year, she would not need to touch the principal to pay for her medical expenses. Her money, of course, ran out after the first year of her illness. But, from our individual contributions, we sustained the charade of an independent parent wishing not to be a burden to her children. Every month, all 13 of us, here and abroad, gave to a fund intended solely for our mother's needs. That fund was rapidly depleted during long stays at the hospital, and so, quite often, a second collection had to be taken in the same month to take care of unexpected bills. Through all this, our mother thought her money was miraculously stretching out.

On the last year before she died, she had to undergo dialysis. We had to get two shifts of nurses to supervise the peritoneal dialysis. My sisters repeatedly begged her to stay with them so they could take care of her, but she insisted on staying at her own apartment not too far away from one of my sisters. Families of dialysis patients know only too well how much it costs to maintain a patient on regular dialysis. My mother suspected as well that soon her funds might run out. She kept asking my sister how much of her money was left. This was the third year of her illness. My sister told her not to worry. But I think she knew.

Two weeks before she died, she told me that the dialysis was not making her well, and that it seemed pointless to continue with it. She asked me to withdraw her from dialysis and to allow her to go peacefully. She was crying, and I did not have the heart to argue with her. She wanted to die in her own house. Her doctor, who completely empathized with her situation, explained to her that she would be more comfortable at the hospital. With great reluctance—because I think she was still thinking of the expenses—she agreed. She passed on five days after her confinement.

These days when we talk about our mother, we still look upon her as someone whose ways we perhaps never completely fathomed. But there is nothing mysterious in this. Our mothers are from another time. They are not our contemporaries. They bear the blind impress of the circumstances in which they lived. We cannot view them from our idealized representations of who they are and how they should act. I am certain that our own children often find us equally strange.

The other day, I was in the living room of our family home in Betis. I was gazing at the old nipa roof when I noticed something dangling from one of the bamboo trusses. Then it all came back to me like a strip of memory: when I was a child, these trusses used to hold the umbilical cords of all my brothers and sisters. As soon as the baby was born, someone would wrap its severed umbilical cord in gauze and tie it to the roof of the house. Over the years, those dangling umbilical cords have become dust, and only a few strings remain. Our parents are gone, but the house has remained the family's womb.

We have rebuilt the old house in a way that would surely baffle our parents. It's hardly recognizable now from the outside. But inside, in the words of the philosopher Emmanuel Levinas, "the past returns, in the imagination, more new than it was in its present."

Happy Mother's Day!

* * *

Comments to rdavid@pacific.net.ph

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Editor **Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.**

TALK *of the* TOWN

Is engineered Bt corn safe?

GENETICALLY modified foods are already available on supermarket shelves, and Filipinos are consuming them without being told by the government and manufacturers that these are engineered foods.

Now the government has taken another step in allowing GM crops to take root in the country. It has approved the commercial distribution of Bt corn seeds nationwide. At the onset of the rainy season this month, farmers will begin planting the corn variety engineered and patented by the US biotech firm Monsanto.

Bt corn looks and tastes like the plain old corn except for one difference. It contains a gene transplanted from the *bacterium Bacillus thuringiensis* that gives the corn the ability to repel pests.

Claiming the new corn variety is safe for humans and the environment, proponents of Bt corn say that it will reduce pesticide use, increase production and raise the income of farmers. But environmental groups are calling for a moratorium on the commercial distribution of Bt corn to give them time to resolve health, environment and safety concerns against it.

Unless there's a strong public clamor against Bt corn, the government may not call a moratorium. Calling one may strain its relations with the United States even as most counties like members of the European Union, China, India and Zambia reject American Bt corn.

"I'd rather die than eat something toxic," said the president of Zambia who rejected 18,000 tons of US corn while his countrymen were teetering on the brink of starvation.

'Protesters are raising old issues'

By Emmanuel S. Borlongan
Public affairs director, Monsanto Philippines

INDEPENDENT and well-respected scientists that the Department of Agriculture consulted on issues raised by anti-biotech protesters against the commercialization of Bt corn reached a consensus that these were "the same issues which have been raised and answered in numerous occasions since 1996." They noted that responses made to those queries were based on available scientific references including local scientific findings.

These experts—Dr. Rhodora Aldemita of PhilRice, Dr. Nina Barzaga of UP Manila, Dr. Saturnina Halos of DA-BAR, Dr. Filipinas Natividad of St. Luke's Medical Center, Dr. Emiliana Bernardo, Dr. Teodoro Abilay, Dr. Eduardo Fernandez, Dr. Antonio Laurena, Dr. Rey Eborra, and Dr. Edwin Alcantara of UP Los Baños—attended the April 28 public dialogue on Bt corn upon the request of the Department of Agriculture.

Below are the replies of the independent scientific experts on the concerns submitted by the protesters:

Issue: Bt corn will cross-pollinate with native corn varieties contaminating them with the Bt toxin gene. The "poison-making trait" is passed on to subsequent generations and neighboring fields.

There is no harm in cross-pollination since the resulting product with Bt protein is specifically toxic to lepidopteran pests. In particular, the Cry1Ab protein produced in Bt corn (MON 810) binds to specific receptors in the midgut of sensitive insects, but does not affect mammals or insects that lack those receptors. This selective toxicity is harmless to humans, fish, wildlife and beneficial insects that can help control other pests. Similarly, this has been safely used for almost 40 years in microbial insecticides.

Still, cross-pollination may be avoided by planting Bt corn 21 days before and after the non-Bt corn is planted (temporal isolation). This temporal isolation is also being followed by white and yellow corn planters to avoid cross-pollination.

Issue: There exists health and environmental safety issues of Bt corn being raised by credible scientists.

Eminent and well-respected scientists from different countries, including the Philippines, the United States, Japan, Canada, Australia and the European Union, have made satisfactory assessment of the Bt corn (MON 810) and have agreed that it is safe to animals, humans and the environment. Countries that have allowed the use of Bt corn for food include Argentina, Canada, Japan, South Korea, South Africa, Switzerland, the United States, the Philippines and the EU. The same countries except South Korea have permitted the field planting of Bt corn MON 810 varieties.

Issue: The market for Bt corn and other GMOs is shrinking with the adoption of mandatory labeling in many countries. Contrary to the allegation, the land areas devoted to GM farming have increased at an annual rate of more than 10 percent for the past six consecutive years. This ranks as one of the highest adoption rates for new technologies in the history of science. Farmers will not be planting GM crops if there are no ready markets for their produce.

Issue: The Department of Agriculture "rushed" the commercialization of Bt corn.

The Bureau of Plant Industry strictly followed the Department of Agriculture guidelines on the commercialization of GM plants. The guidelines underwent full Cabinet deliberation and endorsement. Following the guidelines, the application for propagation underwent a very rigorous, science-based risk assessment procedure that was patterned after the protocol developed by the National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines.

The Department of Agriculture guidelines are in accordance with the best practices in risk assessment recommended by the FAO/WHO, OECD and the Codex Alimentarius. Further, the procedure harmonizes with the risk assessment procedure provided for in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

'Credible scientists are raising serious health and environmental safety issues against it, including the risk of stomach and colon cancers'

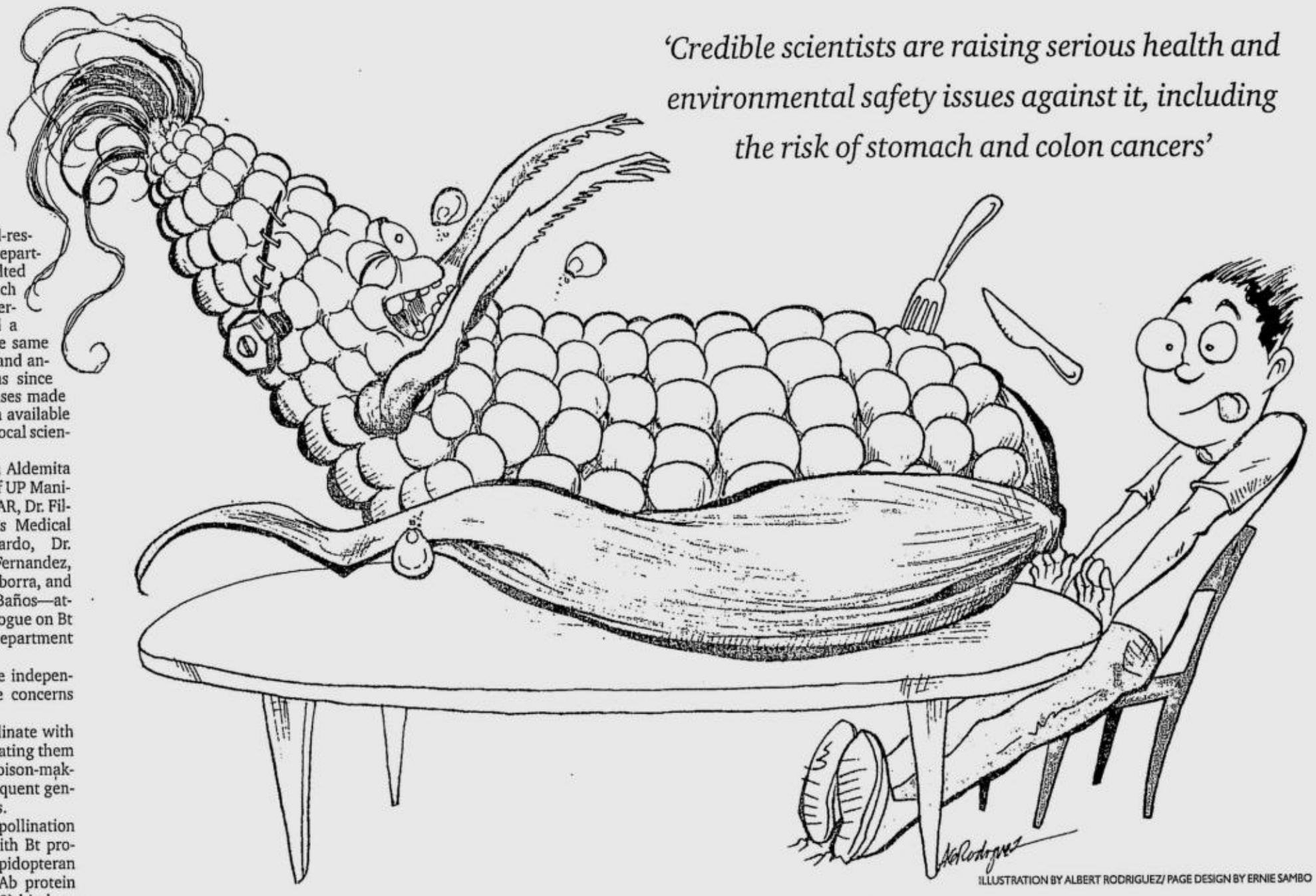

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ/ PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

'We need a moratorium on Bt corn planting now'

By Roberto Verzola
Secretary general, Philippine Greens
Board member, Pabinhi Pilipinas

THIS is the third week of our hunger strike against Bt corn. We began on April 22, to ask Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo Jr. for a moratorium on the distribution of Bt corn in the entire country.

The country needs this moratorium to give us enough time to resolve the serious and credible health, environmental, safety and economic concerns against Bt corn, which remain unresolved today.

Without the moratorium, the Bt corn seeds will be distributed nationwide this May and planted by farmers at the onset of the rainy season.

Bt corn is a corn variety engineered and patented by Monsanto Corp. It is a genetically modified organism (GMO). It has a gene, copied from the *bacterium Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt), that produces a poison in every cell of the corn plant. The poison kills a corn pest, the corn borer. Monsanto in effect turned corn into a pesticide factory.

Bt corn should not be distributed in the country for the following reasons: (Use the Internet and the suggested keywords to research the issues yourself.)

1. Bt corn's pollen carries the poison gene. Once planted widely, Bt corn will sooner or later cross-pollinate native corn varieties, whether they are yellow or white corn, for feed or for food. The integration of the hereditary poison gene into native corn is a permanent change. All subsequent generations will produce the poison within their grain and bodies too.

These contaminated varieties can then spread the gene even further. Thus, once released, Bt corn will be extremely difficult and expensive to eradicate, if it can be eradicated at all. DA officials acknowledge this in our private dialogues but avoid the issue publicly. Any problems associated with Bt corn, including those which may emerge in the future, are therefore bound to become permanent, just like the golden kuhol did. Search: GMO contamination

2. While the contamination problem is certain, the safety of Bt corn remains a matter of scientific debate. Credible scientists are raising serious health and environmental safety issues against it, including the risk of stomach and colon cancers, the strong possibility it would result in the appearance and spread of new and/or more virulent strains of infectious agents, unpredictable and unknown long-term effects, allergies, poison in the soil, killing non-target organisms, and so on. These warnings have come from medical experts at the UP College of Medicine and the Philippine General Hospital, the British Medical Association, and more than 500 scientists worldwide. Other scientists, we acknowledge, disagree and insist that Bt corn is safe. But their position is largely based on claims of chemical/biotech companies which have lied many times before about their products. What cannot be denied is that these scientific issues are unresolved today. Why would the government ignore these dire warnings and proceed to irreversibly contaminate our fields with a crop that carries such potential dangers? Search: GMO safety; GMO risk

3. The Bt poison gene is protected by Monsanto's patent. Monsanto may soon enjoy local protection too, through the newly approved Plant Variety Protection Act. If Bt corn contaminates native corn varieties, Monsanto may sue our farmers for unauthorized possession of their protected gene. Monsanto has already sued and won such suits against US and Canadian farmers, who were fined tens of thousands of dollars for the presence in their fields of Monsanto's patented soya and canola genes. Search: Percy Schmeiser; Eugene Stratemeyer

4. For lack of space, I can't go into the economic concerns like loss of markets and competitive advantage. Many US corn farmers have admitted losses due to Bt corn. But they can continue to use it because the US government subsidizes their losses.

Filipino farmers get no such subsidy. Search: GMO market

5. The government has no reason to rush the distribution of Bt corn. The critical issues corn farmers face today are not the corn borer but market prices, farm-to-market roads and infrastructure, financing, government support, and other problems which cannot be solved by Bt corn. In fact, Bt corn is only a temporary solution to the corn borer problem. Once the pest develops resistance to the Bt toxin, the problem will come back.

6. More sustainable alternatives to corn borer control already exist: pest-tolerant varieties of corn, trichogramma, detasseling, natural pesticides, timing of planting to avoid the corn borer season, and other measures. The DA's own model corn farmer awardees successfully use them, as the DA website *www.da.gov.ph* explains.

7. There are several other important issues, like the flawed review and approval process during the field-testing and multi-locational testing stages, how GMOs will decimate the organic industry. We can discuss them later.

The longer Secretary Lorenzo delays a moratorium, the greater the chances of Bt corn seeds cross-pollinating our native corn varieties and creating a permanent problem in the countryside.

It is very urgent that we adopt a moratorium on the distribution of Bt corn seeds now.

'We have to keep an open mind'

By Luis P. Lorenzo Jr.
Agriculture Secretary

I INHERITED the approval of the commercialization of Bt corn seeds, which continue to be used in other countries, principally in North America, in South America but not in Europe. There are no conclusive reports that it is unsafe for human consumption, but we are reviewing both the negative and positive sides of the issue. Farmers who have tried Bt corn seeds are very happy with the increase in their yields.

We have to keep an open mind on this issue because the Philippines needs to address a shortfall in corn and corn substitutes, which our feed industry greatly depends upon.

Bt corn addresses two things: it lessens the use of pesticides and increases our yields. As a hybrid corn planter, I experienced during the rainy season the attack of corn borers on my farm. When I planted yellow corn late, the corn borer attacked my crop. I am reluctant to use pesticide sprays, which is the approach most farmers use, because there's that fear that I may imbibe the fumes of the insecticide. I am under the impression that using Bt corn, which is corn borer-resistant, would not require the use of pesticide.

Is it the only answer to the low productivity of our cornfields as a result of the corn borer? It's just one. There are other ways of curbing the corn borer and we want to be sure we're going to be objective in our evaluation of this issue.

I told the "hunger strikers" that we need new data on Bt corn. Don't give me something that is two years old. Give me the science behind it. Now they are giving me leads and our people are checking on these.

There are many technologies from the laboratory and it is only now that we are forcing them to come out not because they are good or bad but because they help farmers and fisherfolk to become more profitable in their activities. Our customers here are the farmers and the fisherfolk. They are in the end the consumers.

So we are trying to be careful in all of these initiatives. But we are also under tremendous pressure to help improve the income of our rural folk. Bt corn could be one of the thousands of product initiatives that we have and therefore we are trying to help each sector achieve its potential. *(Based on his statements at a press conference on May 5).*

'HONORARY CHRISTIAN WOMAN'
Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon is honored by the Young Women's Christian Association of the Philippines "for launching the spirit of volunteerism in the organization," during the 55th anniversary rites of the YWCA recently. Gordon was honorary chair of this year's YWCA anniversary committee. Presenting the plaque of appreciation is Dr. Josefina D. Pineda, YWCA president. Others in photo, from left, are YWCA officials Nellie L. Mercado, Justice Rizalina S. Bonifacio Vera, Rosario R. Villar, Ligaya L. Tankeh and Villa Granada de Guia. PDI PHOTO

Hunger striker rushed to hospital

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Esmao was first brought to the East Avenue Medical Center and then the Lung Center of the Philippines, where she is in stable condition. The farmer-leader is being fed intravenously as she continues to refuse solid food.

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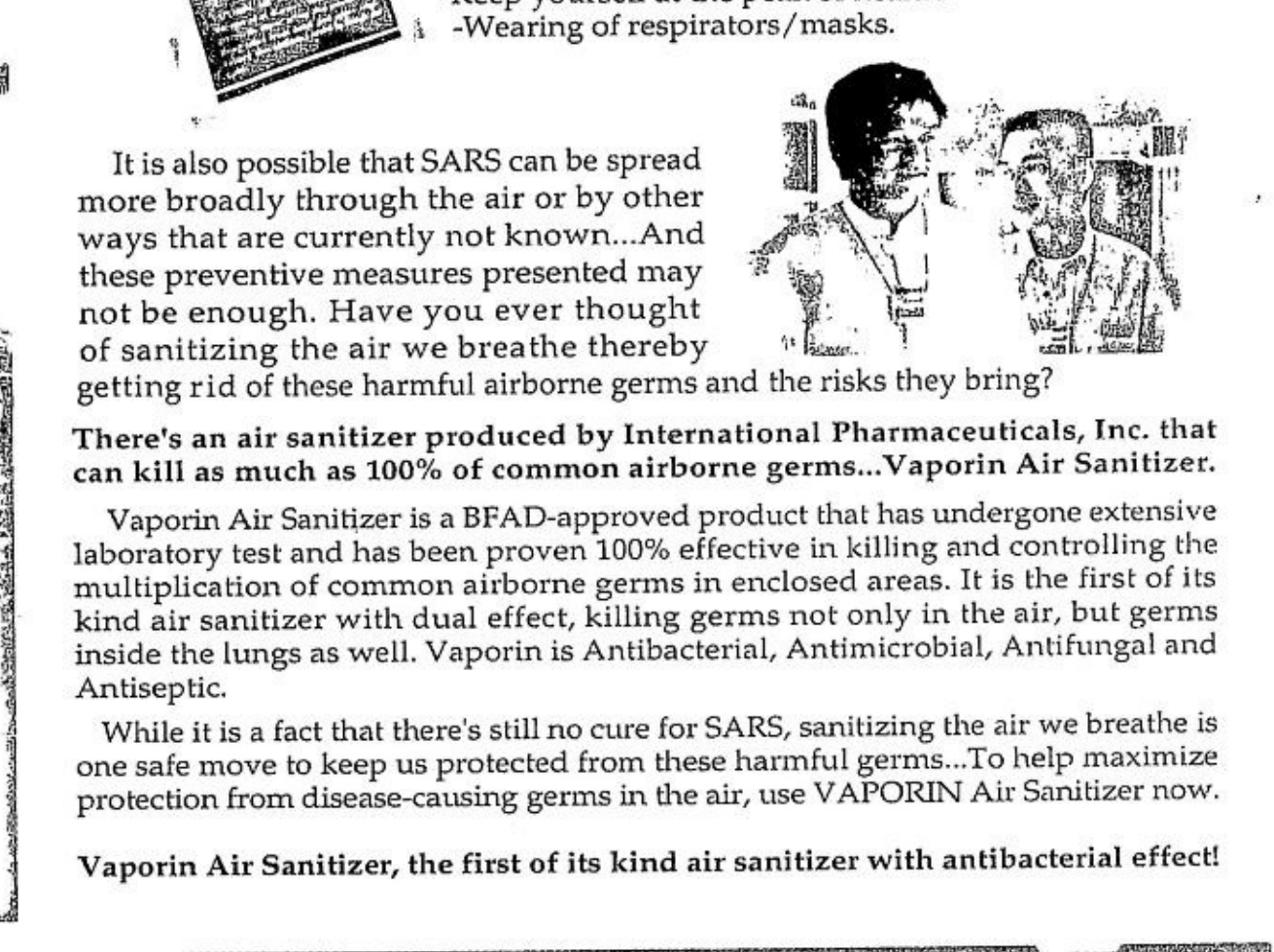
The hunger strike on its third week is being held at the Department of Agriculture grounds. It has gained nationwide support with former DA employee Michael Bengwayan and US Peace Corps volunteer Andrew Haralam, both of Baguio City, and Manny Onalan of Kalinga, joining in the fast. Thousands of farmers across the country have reportedly launched their own protest actions against Bt corn. *(See story on Page A16.)*

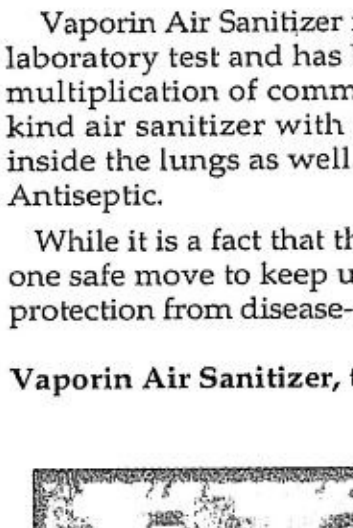
Aside from Esmao, the other hunger strikers at the DA are Roberto Versola and Anne Larracas of Philippine Greens, "running priest" Fr. Robert Reyes and Roy Cabonegro.

They vowed to keep up the strike until Agriculture Secretary Luis Lorenzo Jr. places a moratorium on the distribution of Bt corn.



Lower the risk of SARS infection. Clear the air of disease-causing germs!

The primary way that SARS appears to spread is by close person-to-person contact. Most cases of SARS have involved people who cared for or lived with someone with SARS, or had direct contact with infectious material (for example, respiratory secretions) from a person who has SARS. Potential ways in which SARS can be spread include touching with skin of other people or objects that are contaminated with the infectious droplets and then touching your eye(s), nose, or mouth. This can happen when someone who is sick with SARS coughs or sneezes droplets onto themselves, other people, or nearby surfaces.



Some tips in lowering the risk of infection:
-Frequent environmental cleaning
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-Frequent & proper disposal of items with respiratory secretions
-Avoid non-essential travel to critical areas
-Keep yourself at the peak of health.
-Wearing of respirators/masks.

It is also possible that SARS can be spread more broadly through the air or by other ways that are currently not known...And these preventive measures presented may not be enough. Have you ever thought of sanitizing the air we breathe thereby getting rid of these harmful airborne germs and the risks they bring?

There's an air sanitizer produced by International Pharmaceuticals, Inc. that can kill as much as 100% of common airborne germs...Vaporin Air Sanitizer.

Vaporin Air Sanitizer is a BFAD-approved product that has undergone extensive laboratory test and has been proven 100% effective in killing and controlling the multiplication of common airborne germs in enclosed areas. It is the first of its kind air sanitizer with dual effect, killing germs not only in the air, but germs inside the lungs as well. Vaporin is Antibacterial, Antimicrobial, Antifungal and Antiseptic.

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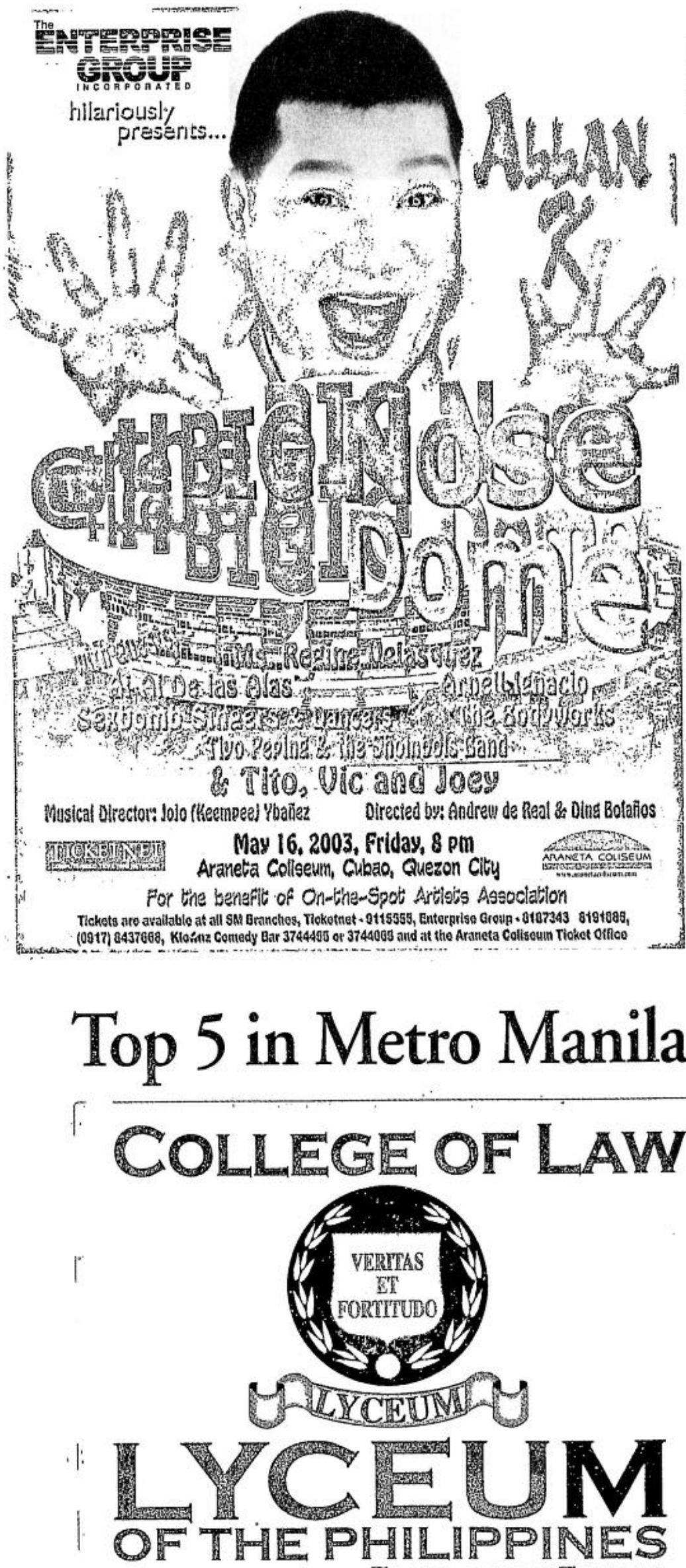

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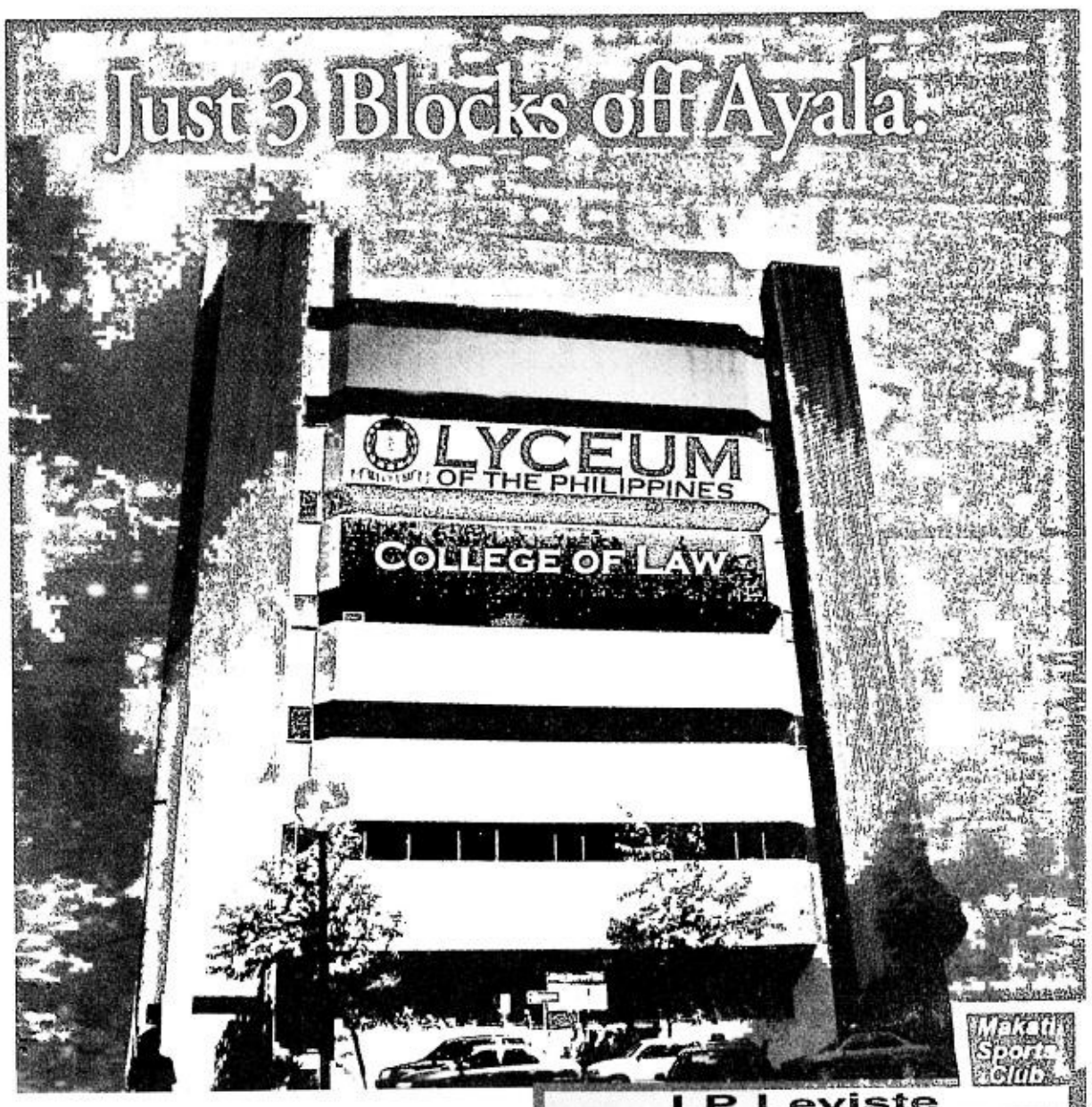

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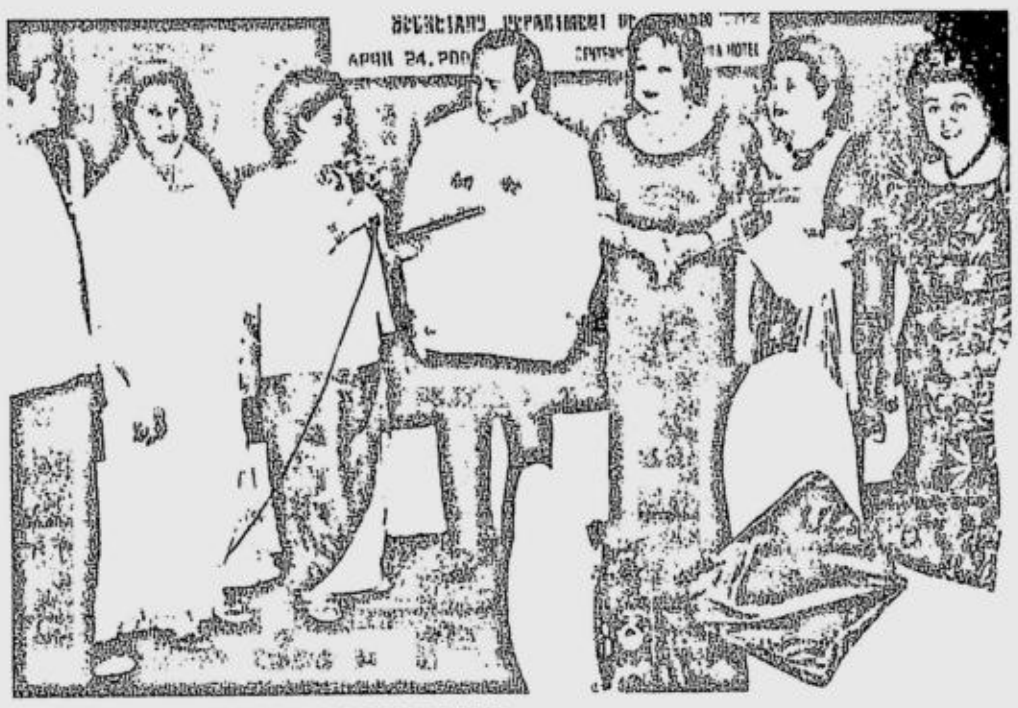

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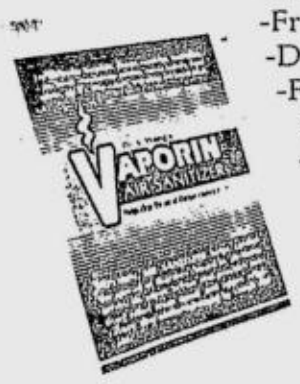

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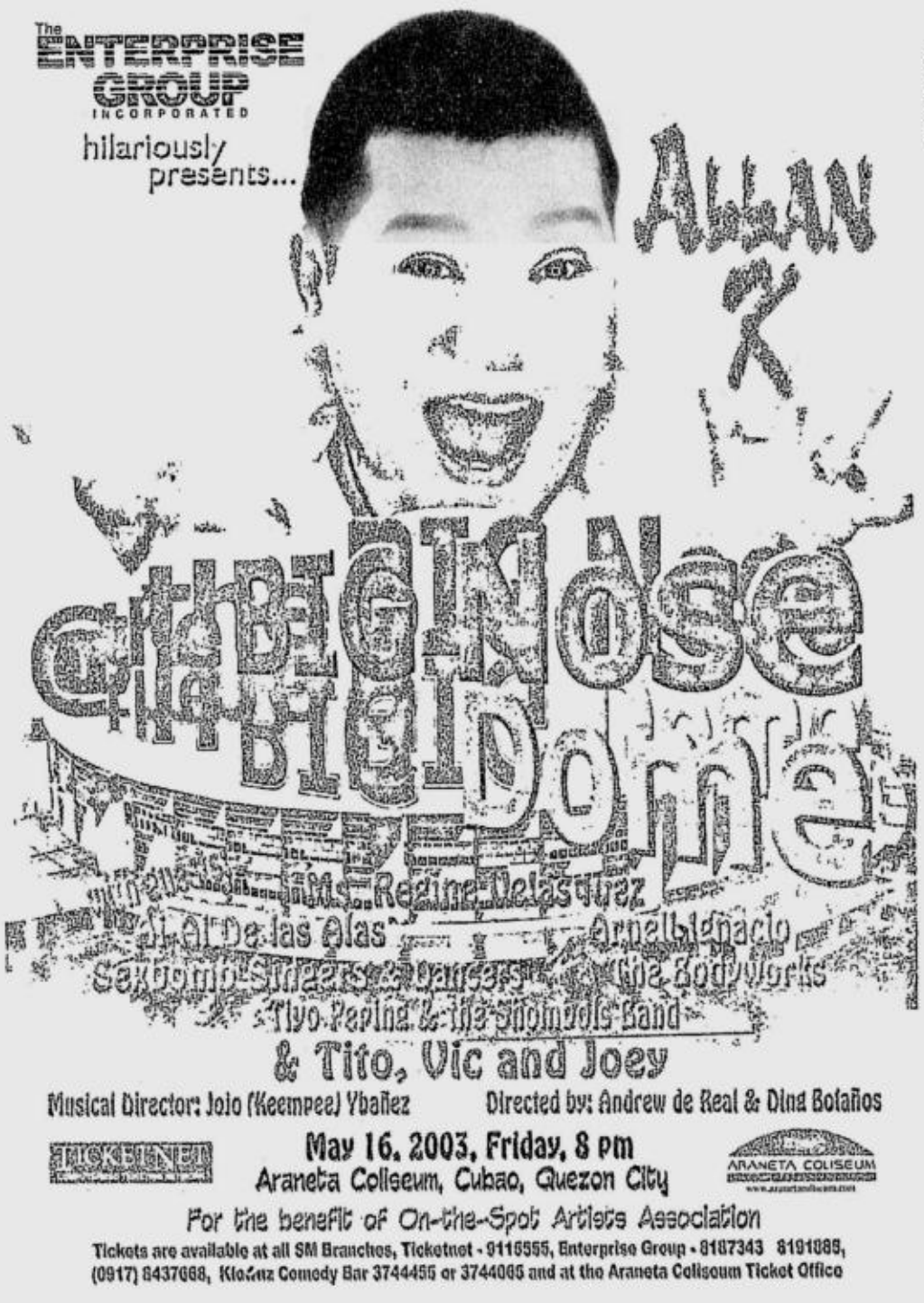

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The WORLD

Editor Luverne B. Gueco

US presses bid to control Iraq economy

UNITED NATIONS—The United States was bombarded with questions at the UN Security Council on Friday when it introduced a resolution to lift sanctions against Iraq and give Washington and its allies control over oil revenues.

US Ambassador John Negroponte explained the eight-page resolution, co-sponsored by Britain and Spain, in a closed Security Council meeting that participants said was devoid of the acrimony the Bush administration faced in March when it tried to get approval to invade Iraq.

"I would say most delegations saw this as charting a way forward and certainly they had some questions," Negroponte told reporters.

France, Russia, Germany and others raised pointed questions about the limited UN role expressed in the resolution, the future of UN inspections, which was omitted from the resolution and the legality of a new Iraqi leadership to be set up by the United States and Britain alone.

The resolution lists a series of vague tasks for a new UN coordinator, which several nations said should be defined more clearly. "What would be his responsibility in real terms?" asked German Ambassador Gunter Pleuger.

Pleuger also asked whether four months was enough to dissolve the multibillion-dollar oil-for-food program now controlled by the United Nations.

Some council members that had hesitated in supporting the US-led war appeared to back the resolution. Angola said it was a "good start" and Chile viewed it positively.

Junior diplomats will work on the resolution on Monday and the 15 ambassadors meet again on Wednesday. Over the weekend, ambassadors go on their annual retreat in upstate New York with UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.

The resolution would deposit Iraqi oil revenues in an "Iraqi Assistance Fund" for humanitarian and reconstruction purposes, to be held by the Iraqi Central Bank.

The fund would have an advisory board that would include officials appointed by Annan as well as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and others. That group would audit expenditures.

But decisions on where to spend the money would be made mainly by the United States and Britain, which have called themselves the "occupying powers," with perhaps some input from other allies, which sent some troops to the effort to oust President Saddam Hussein's government.

British Ambassador Jeremy Greenstock emphasized several times that "we want to leave Iraq as soon as it is possible to ensure stability and normal arrangements."

Without a Security Council resolution, no Iraqi or US entity in Baghdad has the legal authority to export oil.

In Washington, Secretary of State Colin Powell said there was a "sense of urgency" to get the resolution adopted. "We don't need to deny the people of Iraq the funds that would be available as a result of being able to sell the oil," he said.

But US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said expectations about progress in Iraq must remain realistic. *Reuters*

AYATOLLAH Mohammad Baqir al-Hakim, debarking at the Iranian city of Ahvaz, May 9. AP

Top Iraq Shiite leader returns home from exile

SHALAMSHEH, Iran-Iraq Border—Iraq's top Iraqi Shiite leader, Ayatollah Mohammed Baqer al-Hakim, returned home Saturday to be greeted by thousands of the faithful after 23 years of exile in Iran, AFP correspondents reported.

The 64-year-old head of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SAIRI), crossed through this desert border post 10 km east of Iraq's southern capital Basra at 9:40 a.m. and was met by thousands of jubilant supporters.

"Yes, Yes, Islam... Yes, Yes, Hakim," the crowd chanted. "Sunnites, Shiites, no difference... all united behind Islam."

Sheep were slaughtered to mark the arrival.

An aide to Hakim said the convoy of four-wheel drive vehicles would over the coming days tour the southern Iraqi cities of Basra and Nasariyah, before the ayatollah returns to his birthplace in the Shiite holy city of Najaf.

Hakim, who had been greeted in the no-man's land between the two border posts by senior SAIRI figures, was not immediately scheduled to travel to Baghdad, the aide said.

SAIRI officials said Hakim was protected by bodyguards of the group's armed wing, the Badr Brigade, which has been accused of trying to infiltrate from Iran to spread Iranian influence across Iraq, something Tehran denies.

A welcoming ceremony was to be held at SAIRI offices recently set up in a former Basra theater.

In Tehran on Friday, as Hakim prepared his return, he made a final speech in exile during weekly prayers, telling the faithful that Iraq's future belongs to Islam.

"There is no time now for me to talk to you in detail about the future of Iraq, but I tell you the future of Iraq belongs to Islam," he said, committing himself to that struggle.

"Independence is our greatest priority... Iraqis must be able to decide on their future, something they have not been able to do up to now," he added.

The opposition chief had originally been set to return to Iraq on April 28, but his trip was canceled without explanation.

Shiite Muslims form about 60 percent of Iraq's population and are most highly concentrated in the south. They went virtually unrepresented in the regime of former president Saddam Hussein.

Hakim's brother and deputy, Abdul Aziz, has been in the country since April 16 and has represented the movement at meetings of the former Iraqi opposition working toward setting up an interim government in Iraq.

While SAIRI objects to the presence of US and British forces in Iraq, it has taken the pragmatic decision to participate in the process, which is being steered by Washington. *AFP*

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CELESTIAL BODY
This photograph of the coil-shaped Helix Nebula is one of the largest and most detailed celestial images ever made. The composite picture is a seamless blend of ultra-sharp images from Nasa's Hubble Space Telescope combined with the wide view of the Mosaic Camera on the National Science Foundation's 0.9-meter telescope at Kitt Peak National Observatory near Tucson, Arizona. . REUTERS

US to mount simulated attacks on 2 cities to test its readiness

WASHINGTON—The United States will launch simulated radiological and biological attacks on two cities next week in its first major test of disaster preparedness since the deadly Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on America.

The $16 million simulation—the largest homeland security exercise ever undertaken in the United States—will take place from May 12-16 in Seattle, Washington and Chicago, Illinois and will spread into Vancouver, Canada.

Officials and analysts say they hope to see some improved responses during the Congressionally mandated drill, dubbed "Topoff 2" for "Top Officials 2," over those from Topoff 1—a similar exercise carried out in May 2000.

In 2000 when the domestic terrorism threat was not viewed as a top priority, very few top officials participated in the drill. The exercise, similar to what will be played out next week, exposed major communications and coordination problems between federal, state and local officials.

But the attitude has changed in light of the Sept. 11 attacks which forced the United States to realize its vulnerability to terror attacks. This time, more than 25 federal agencies will be involved as well as numerous state and local agencies and departments.

Government agencies at all levels have invested more money to try to improve response time, streamline communications and improve the ability of hospitals to handle a disaster.

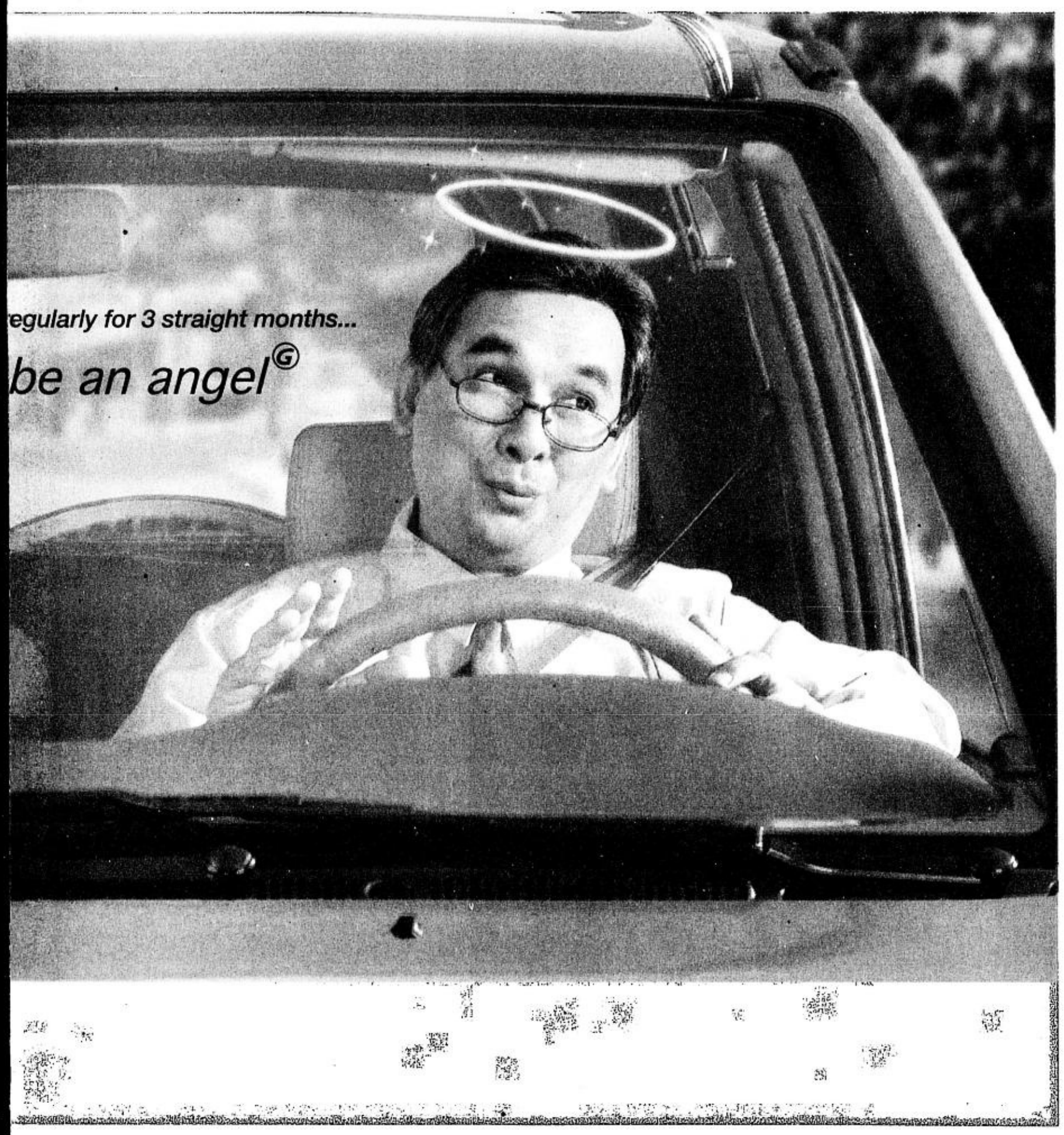
"We're really seeing more emphasis on the contingency planning mentality by both corporations and (government) agencies," said Gene Kirby, chief executive of Dialogic Communications Corp., a major vendor of emergency notification technology.

Under the scenario, a fictitious terror group will detonate a radiological "dirty bomb" in Seattle on Monday at about noon local time. The same group will disseminate a pneumonic plague in Chicago, and people will begin to report flu-like symptoms around Chicago on Tuesday.

More than 100 people will be injured in Seattle and significant radiation will be detected, sparking the government to raise its terror threat warning to the highest level.

In the Chicago area an undisclosed number of people will get sick. In the exercise, people in Canada will report the same symptoms as in Chicago, leading to cross-border efforts to coordinate an epidemiological investigation.

Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge, whose department was created to prevent and deal with any future attacks, said the exercise scenario reflected plausible threats to the country. *Reuters*



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Report: Al-Qaida planning attack on scale of 9/11

DUBAI—Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida has reorganized and is planning an operation against the United States similar to the Sept. 11 attacks, a member of the Islamic militant group has told an Arabic magazine.

In the article in Sunday's edition of the London-based weekly al-Majalla, made available in advance to Reuters, an al-Qaida "media coordinator" named as Thabet bin Qais also said that striking the US consulate in Karachi was not a priority.

Washington said last week that al-Qaida was in the late stages of planning an aerial suicide attack on the consulate in Karachi when Pakistani authorities broke up a cell in the city last month and arrested six al-Qaida members.

"(The US consulate) does not necessarily form a pressing target and striking it is not a priority for the organization compared to the plans being made now for a strike of the size of the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States," the prominent Saudi-owned magazine said, quoting bin Qais indirectly.

"He (Bin Qais) stressed that the strike on America is definitely coming," it said, adding that Bin Qais had said the movement had changed its structure after the Sept. 11 attacks.

Around 3,000 people died when suicide plane hijackers attacked targets in New York and Washington on Sept. 11, 2001. Washington says the attacks were carried out by al-Qaida, led by Saudi-born militant Osama bin Laden.

"We in al-Qaida are cold toward news that talks about the Americans uncovering new plans or arrests of leaders," Bin Qais was quoted as saying in direct speech. "We ignore these because we know that the Americans are moving in the expected direction.

Their moves are very traditional," he said.

"Al-Qaida is still way ahead of the Americans and their allies in the intelligence war," Bin Qais added in the comments, which al-Majalla said he sent to them via email. *Reuters*

Bush unveils free trade plan for Middle East

JERUSALEM—Israel and the Palestinians prepared Friday to welcome US Secretary of State Colin Powell on a peace mission as US President George W. Bush unveiled a free trade plan for the region and reaffirmed his commitment to a Palestinian state.

But violence continued on the ground, a day after five Palestinians were killed in the occupied territories, including a Hamas militant in a fresh "targeted killing" by the Israeli army which has sparked vows of bloody revenge.

And the Israeli army introduced tough new curbs on foreigners, including journalists and humanitarian workers, in the Gaza Strip, as peace activists said the aim was to remove unwanted witnesses to its depredations.

Basking in the afterglow of Iraqi strongman Saddam Hussein's defeat, Bush told a graduation ceremony audience at the University of South Carolina: "We have reached a moment of tremendous promise, and the United States will seize the moment for the sake of peace."

Bush called for creating a US-Middle East free trade area in 10 years' time, vowing to reward reform-minded Arab nations and capitalize on Saddam's demise.

He said that his proposal would "bring the Middle East into an expanding circle of opportunity" and pave the way for creating a Palestinian state at peace with Israel by 2005.

"Now, with a liberated Iraq, with new leadership for the Palestinian people, with efforts of leaders like (Egyptian) President (Hosni) Mubarak and (Saudi) Crown Prince Abdullah, the hope of peace is renewed," the president said.

"If the Palestinian people take concrete steps to crack down on terror, continue on a path of peace, reform and democracy, they and all the world will see the flag of Palestine raised over a free and independent nation." Powell was expected to arrive in the region late Saturday to hold talks with Israeli prime minister Sharon and his Palestinian counterpart Mahmud Abbas and kickstart the so-called roadmap for peace in the Middle East. *AFP*

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Man opens fire at Ohio university, kills 1

CLEVELAND—A man wearing camouflage and carrying two guns opened fire inside a university business school Friday, killing at least one person and wounding another. The standoff ended seven hours later with police taking a suspect into custody.

Police Chief Edward Lohn said the man, who is not a student at Case Western Reserve University, suffered two gunshot wounds but was able to walk and get on a medical gurney himself.

He said the suspect wore a bulletproof vest, a wig and "a kind of World War II Army helmet."

Hospital officials said one man was killed and another was listed in good condition after suffering a gunshot wound to the buttocks.

Lohn said about 70 people were in the Peter B. Lewis Building at the time of the shooting. He would not discuss injuries, saying family members had not been notified.

"As the SWAT team entered the building, they were constantly under fire," Lohn said. "They couldn't return fire because of the design of the building, they didn't have a clear shot."

The building, designed by architect Frank Gehry, has hallways that dip and swerve and a curving roof of stainless steel that seems to tumble to the ground.

Earlier, students and faculty scrambled to get out of the building after seeing the gunman fire indiscriminately. Others were trapped inside, and many stayed in contact through e-mail and telephone calls.

"We're all shaking and quite scared. One of the girls in our office is seven months pregnant—we're trying to keep her as calm as possible," Tracy Warner, 30, said from a third-floor office as she hid with several other people.

Police begged the gunman to call them, but by early evening, two dozen SWAT team officers wearing helmets and bulletproof vests moved inside.

About four hours after the shooting began, rescuers began taking people out of the building.

In addition to the two people shot, an unknown number of people were taken out of the building and placed on stretchers. Further details were not available and it was not clear if any had been shot.

A student who escaped, Sachin Goel, 26, said he was standing near the cafeteria with two friends when the gunman approached and opened fire. One of his friends screamed as he was hit, and the others dove for cover under a table.

"He couldn't get us. And then he again shot as we turned the table and put it in front of us," Goel said. "He was indiscriminately firing at everyone and a sane person would not be doing that." *AP*

A POLICE helicopter shines a search light over the roof of the Peter B. Lewis building which houses the business school on the Case Western Reserve University campus in Cleveland, Ohio, May 9, where a gunman earlier opened fire inside the building with about 70 people inside. *AFP*

US envoy in talks with Indian leaders over Pakistan

NEW DELHI—US Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage Saturday began talks with senior Indian leaders during a daylong visit aimed at consolidating recent peace initiatives between nuclear rivals India and Pakistan.

Armitage, whose delegation includes Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia Christina Rocca, arrived in New Delhi late Friday.

He kicked off the day with talks with the leader of India's opposition Congress Party Sonia Gandhi.

He is also expected to meet Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, his deputy Lal Krishna Advani, Foreign Minister Yashwant Sinha and Finance Minister Jaswant Singh.

His visit was planned before an unexpected thaw in relations triggered by Vajpayee's sudden offer for talks with Pakistan on April 18.

Both sides have since announced the resumption of diplomatic and air links which were severed 17 months ago.

Armitage, who is keen not to be seen as a mediator, denied Washington had put any pressure on New Delhi and Islamabad to start talking.

"I want to dispell the notion that there is pressure from the United States," he said Thursday in Pakistan.

He told reporters there that cross-border violence was down compared to 12 months ago, adding Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf had denied the existence of militant training camps in Pakistani-administered Kashmir.

But if such camps existed "they will be gone tomorrow," Armitage quoted Musharraf as saying.

Cross-border infiltration of Islamic rebels is at the heart of tensions between the countries and brought them to the brink of war after a deadly attack on India's parliament in December 2001 which New Delhi blamed on gunmen backed by Islamabad.

It was Armitage who doused the flames then, spearheading an international diplomatic offensive and winning a war-averting pledge from Musharraf to permanently end infiltration. *AFP*

Thai premier vows to crack down on mob

BANGKOK—After claiming victory in a three-month "war on drugs" that left hundreds dead, Thailand's prime minister on Saturday announced a crackdown on mafia-style power brokers.

He said top government officials will meet on May 20 to discuss the problem of people who use political influence or threats to win business contracts, and those who monopolize markets by intimidating rivals.

"We will do a clean sweep of people who have influence," Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra said in his weekly radio speech. "Threatening each other like this—this is the mafia. From now on you have to abide by the law," he said.

Thaksin said he has heard many reports about power brokers bidding for contracts and sending hoodlums to threaten rivals, and that he has compiled a list of all illegal gunmen operating in the country.

He said the Thai police know exactly who is involved in gangsterism but are afraid to act because of the suspected culprits' political influence.

"Everyone has to abide by the law," he said.

Thaksin did not give details of his anti-mafia strategy. His Feb. 1-April 30 war on drugs resulted in more than 2,274 deaths, raising accusations of extra-judicial killings by the police.

Thaksin has denied such claims and rejected criticism by the United States and human rights groups. He attributed most of the killings to gang wars and "big bosses" murdering suspected informers.

Thaksin left early Saturday for a six-day trip to France and Sri Lanka.

His visit to France is the first by a Thai prime minister in 14 years. He's scheduled to meet with French President Jacques Chirac on Monday. *AP*

Afghan rebels attack convoy; US retaliates

KABUL—Helicopter gunships and US fighter jets pounded a house in eastern Afghanistan at dawn Saturday after rebels ambushed a US-led coalition convoy, killing one Afghan soldier and wounding an American fighter, an official said.

In the ambush late Friday, rebels fired rockets at the convoy near Lalmi, about five kilometers from Khost, said Hayatullah Taniwal, spokesman for Khost Gov. Hakim Taniwal.

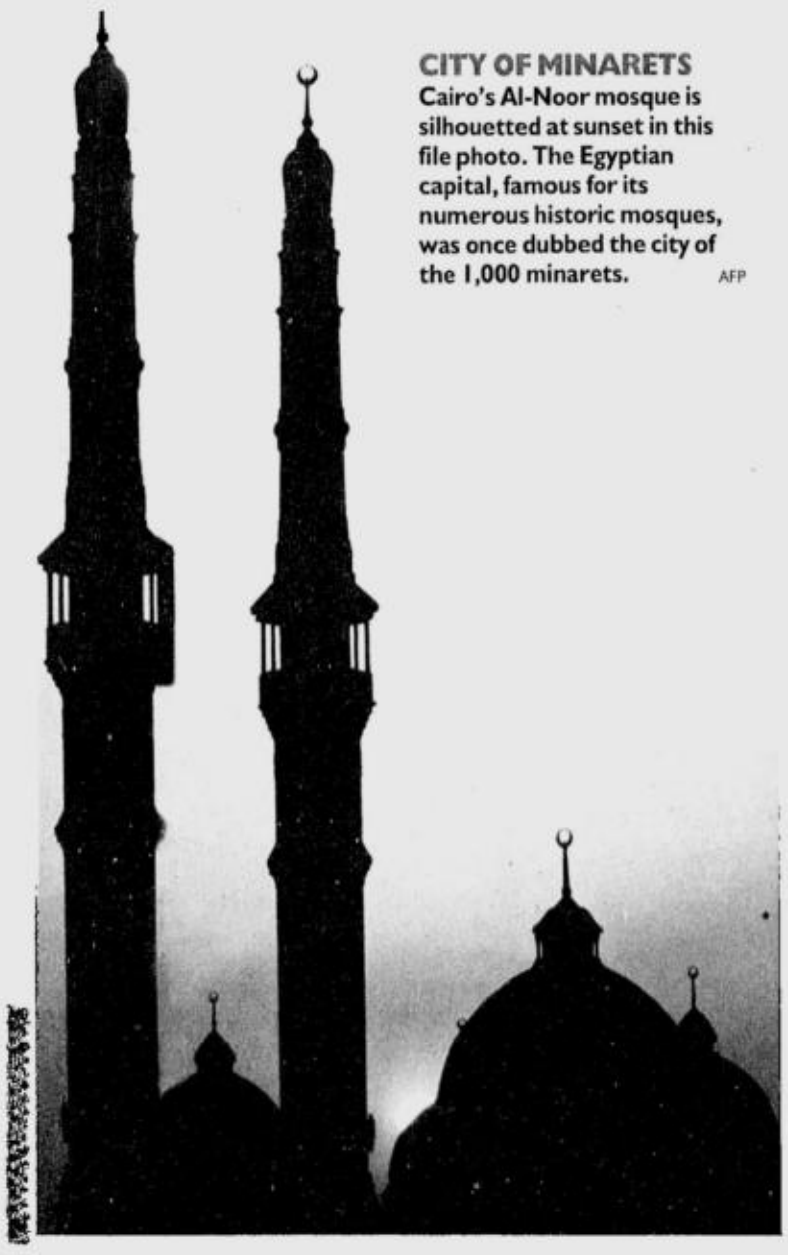
Soldiers scrambled and returned fire. In the exchange, an Afghan soldier was killed and an American solider wounded, Taniwal said.

He didn't know the condition of the American soldier and there was no immediate comment from the US military's Afghan headquarters in Bagram, north of the Afghan capital, Kabul.

"We only know that he was wounded," Taniwal said. "The fighting we were told was fierce."

The coalition forces and their Afghan allies chased the rebels to a house in Lalmi, he said. Throughout the night they prevented anyone from leaving, and as dawn broke on Saturday helicopter gunships and fighter jets attacked the rebel location. *AP*

HAIL THE CROWN PRINCE'S BIRTH
Horsemen fire their rifles from their charging mounts May 9 at Rabat in a fantasia to celebrate the birth Thursday of Moroccan King Mohammed VI's first son, the crown prince Moulay Al Hassan.



CITY OF MINARETS
Cairo's Al-Noor mosque is silhouetted at sunset in this file photo. The Egyptian capital, famous for its numerous historic mosques, was once dubbed the city of the 1,000 minarets. AFP

Police-drug gangs shootouts in Rio leave 13 dead

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil—Violence between drug gangs and police left 13 people dead on Friday in the beautiful, beach city of Rio de Janeiro, where already high murder rates are hitting new records.

One policeman died in a hail of bullets when passing drug traffickers in a convoy of vehicles—a common practice in Rio—saw him on patrol and opened fire, police said. Two other police were also killed in shootouts early on Friday.

In response to the police deaths, authorities moved in on members of an alleged gang holed up in a slum house and ended up in a gun battle, said Renato Homem, a spokesperson for state security department.

Eight people in the house were killed, he said. Police also said they killed two other alleged traffickers in confrontations on Friday.

The violence came just days after the state's security chief said crime was "out of control" in Rio.

Crime experts say they cannot recall a worse outbreak of violence in Rio since an 18th century invasion by French pirates, and pointed out that drug gangs are using intimidation more and more against authorities and the population.

"I think murder rates have never been higher in Rio and it seems the numbers are only growing," said Prof. Ignacio Cano, a crime expert at Rio de Janeiro State University.

This year's figures were not available, but experts say that Rio's murder rate of around 60 per 100,000 people in the past few years make it one of the world's most dangerous cities along with Colombia's Cali or Johannesburg in South Africa.

Earlier this week, police were forced to shut the three main roads into the city, including the highway leading to Rio's International Airport, as they engaged in long shootouts with gangs in the slums that straddle the highways. *Reuters*

Veteran US reporter killed in Iraq

BOSTON—Elizabeth Neuffer, an award-winning reporter for The Boston Globe, was killed in an automobile accident in Iraq while covering the aftermath of the war, the newspaper said on Friday.

The accident, which occurred when Neuffer's car apparently struck a guardrail near the town of Samarra northwest of Baghdad on Thursday, also killed her translator, Waleed Khalifa Hassan Al-Dulami. The driver, Saad Al-Azami, survived.

Neuffer, 46, the 14th journalist killed in Iraq since the US- and British-led invasion began in March, was the first US woman journalist killed.

Neuffer was returning to Baghdad from an overnight trip to Tikrit, where she reported a story on efforts to rid Iraq of the influence of Saddam Hussein's Baath Party. Her article had been set to run on Sunday.

Globe Editor Martin Baron said the news room was "devastated" by the death of Neuffer, who had been based at the United Nations.

"She made a specialty of covering war crimes, human rights and the struggles of fractured nations," Baron said in a statement. "Her energy seemed limitless and her reports were eloquent with insight."

John Negroponte, the US ambassador to the United Nations, called Neuffer the "consummate international affairs reporter" and said she covered the stories that needed to be told.

"Elizabeth's refreshing wit, candor and pioneering spirit will be missed by all of those individuals -- at the United Nations and around the world—who were touched by her life," he said in a statement.

Neuffer began working at the Globe in 1988 and reported on the collapse of the Soviet Union and the 1991 Gulf War.

In 1997 she won the SAIS-Novartis Prize for Excellence in International Journalism for a 10-part series she did on war crimes in Rwanda and Bosnia.

Based on her experiences in those war-torn countries, she wrote a book on war crimes and post-war justice titled "The Keys to My Neighbor's House."

Friends recalled her work ethic and her "infectious laugh," noting that she spoke French, German and Russian fluently. *Reuters*

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Across the NATION

Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

VISAYAS BUREAU
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346/233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
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Countdown for Justice

WAPILE

IT IS exactly 363 days today since Pagadian journalist Edgar Damalerio was slain in cold blood. The principal suspect, police officer Guillermo Wapile, remains at large after escaping while in the custody of the police.

US gives $5,000 to Damalerio widow

PAGADIAN CITY—The New York-based World Press Freedom Committee (WPFC) gave $5,000 to the family of slain journalist Edgar Damalerio to help finance the cases they filed against the principal suspect, a former police officer, and several others.

Damalerio, managing editor of the local weekly The Zamboanga Scribe and commentator of Radio Philippine Network's dxKP, was ambushed near the police headquarters here on May 13 last year while on his home from a press conference.

The main suspect, Guillermo Wapile, was an active police officer then. Relatives said Damalerio's death had something to do with his criticisms against the local police for their alleged inaction against various crimes including drug pushing.

Witnesses positively tagged Wapile as the gunman. Damalerio's widow had filed murder charges against him.

"I am pleased to enclose a check $5,000, representing a Fund Against Censorship grant for the purpose of providing legal counsel to prosecute the killer of your husband, Edgar Damalerio," said Marilyn Greene, WPFC executive director, in her letter to Gemma, which the widow recently received.

WPFC belongs to the Coordinating Committee of Press Freedom Organization (CCPFO). Aside from the WPFC, the CCPFO also include the International Press Institute; Inter-American Press Association of Broadcasting; World Association of Newspapers; Commonwealth Press Union; North American National Broadcasters Association; International Federation of Periodical Press and the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ).

Greene in the same letter said Damalerio's death could never be compensated.

"However, this grant may help in the apprehension and punishment of those responsible, bringing some degree of vindication for this vicious killing," she said.

Gemma had filed criminal and administrative charges against Senior Supt. Pedrito Reyes, former police provincial director of Zamboanga del Sur, who was accused of allowing the escape of Wapile on Jan. 27.

A local court entrusted Wapile to Reyes while the murder charges filed by Gemma were being heard.

Jose Pavia, director of the Philippine Press Institute and one of the prime movers of the Freedom Fund for Filipino Journalist (FFFJ) said the $5,000 assistance from WPFC would greatly help Gemma's legal battle. ***Hernan P. dela Cruz, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Decriminalize libel, media group urges

THE NATIONAL Union of Journalists of the Philippines (NUJP) is calling for the decriminalization of the country's libel law, following the arrests on May 7 of Cagayan de Oro journalists Herbie Gomez of Gold Star Daily and Joey Nacalaban of Sun Star Cagayan de Oro.

"Decriminalizing will rid the libel law, at least partly, of its repressive element," said the NUJP statement issued on May 8 by Carlos Conde, NUJP coordinator in Davao City.

Gomez and Nacalaban were arrested on the basis of a P5-million libel suit filed against them by Tangub City Mayor Jennifer Tan. An article published by the Gold Star Daily alleged that Tan went to Germany on a trip paid for by the State Power Corp., proponent of a coal-fired power plant to be built in Misamis Oriental. But Tan denied the allegation.

The two were released on the same day after filing P10,000 bail bond each.

The filing of the case was meant to "instill fear in the hearts of journalists so that they won't be able to perform their duty to report and criticize official actions," said Conde in the statement.

The statement condemned the detention of the two journalists, and expressed concern over the libel cases being filed "with seeming impunity against members of the Cagayan de Oro media."

More than 50 counts of libel have been filed against station manager Jonas Bustamante of radio station dxCO, because of his commentary against city and police officials, the NUJP statement said, citing a report in Gold Star Daily. "The officials he has been criticizing promised to file 100 more libel cases."

The libel law "has always been used to exact revenge against journalists and to muzzle them. This is done with such impunity that it now appears that vengeance and intimidation are precisely the intent of the libel law, not to make responsible citizens out of journalists," the statement added.

The group of journalists said it maintains that "the public, the consumers of news from print and broadcast, are the final arbiters of the media's or a journalist's fate. They alone have the right—and the responsibility—to 'discipline' the press, not by filing criminal charges, not by assassination," the statement read.

Slain radioman buried in Albay

CAMALIG, Albay—Slain Albay broadcaster John Villanueva Jr. was buried Friday at the La Felicidad Memorial Park here, as about 3,000 family members, relatives and sympathizers cried for justice.

Streamers and placards condemned the killing as relatives, friends, media practitioners and cause-oriented groups in the region occupied a street leading to the Camalig parish church from Villanueva's residence in upland Barangay Tagaytay, about a kilometer from the town proper.

Villanueva was gunned down by two men while on his way home from his afternoon radio program at radio station dzGB in Legazpi City.

Among the media groups present during the burial were the Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster ng Pilipinas, Albay-Legazpi Press Association, Police Regional Office 5 Press Corps —all based in Legazpi City, and the Sorsogon Independent Media Reporters Inc. (Simri) based in Sorsogon City.

The cause-oriented groups represented were the Albay Movement for Justice and Peace, Bayan Muna and the Concerned Drivers and Operators for Reform, where Villanueva was a founding member when he was still a jeepney driver in 1979.

Residents of Camalig town lighted candles and put flowers on their altars as the whole town grieved for their martyred former vice mayor.

Authorities continue to be dumbfounded on the case.

Ding Uy, Simri president, in a press release during the funeral service for the slain broadcaster, said "the two suspected armed men are members of a liquidation squad of the Philippine Army." *Ronnie Lorejo, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau.*

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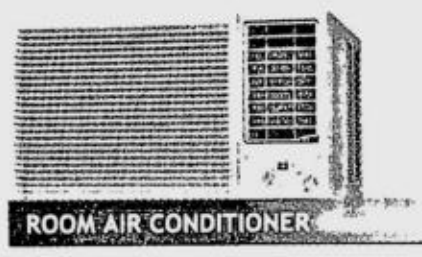

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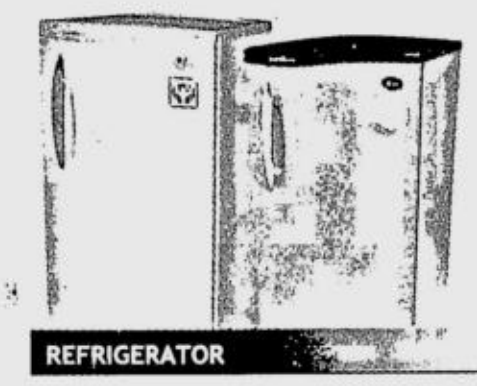

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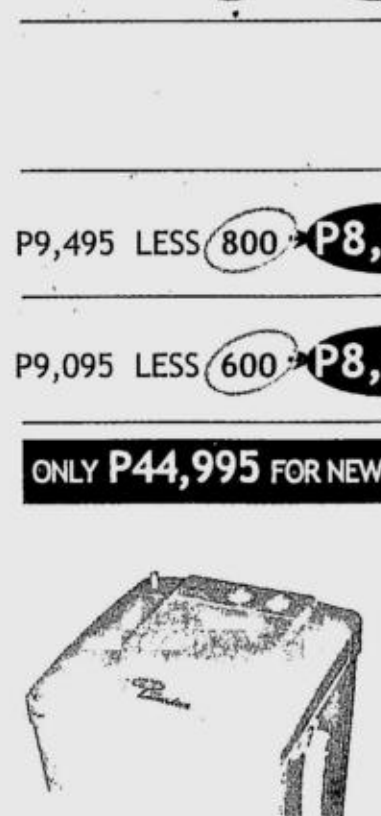

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Iloilo farmers join hunger strike against GMO planting

By Ma. Diosa Labiste
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—Six farmer leaders in Iloilo are among the hundreds of farmers in the Visayas who joined the sympathy fast on Friday against the propagation of genetically modified organisms (GMOs), particularly the commercial planting of Bt corn in the country.

The six farmers had refused to take breakfast, lunch and supper, only water and clear soup. They broke their fast at around 9:00 p.m. on Friday.

The farmers from Iloilo were among the 500 farmers all over the Visayas who participated in the solidarity fast staged by farmers since April 22 in Manila.

An American Peace Corps volunteer, Andrew Haralam, staged his own fast in Baguio City to protest the propagation and planting of Bt corn in the Philippines.

He said he was protesting his country's spreading of the technology to manufacture GMOs.

Pressure

The hunger strike of farmers was meant to pressure the government into continuing a moratorium in the commercialization of Bt corn, which was approved for planting by the Department of Agriculture in December. The commercial production of the GMO was approved by President Macapagal-Arroyo.

Bt corn was genetically engineered with genes derived from bacterium "Bacillus thuringiensis" (Bt). The genetically-modified corn was developed to become less vulnerable to pests like the Asiatic corn borer (*Ostrinia furnacalis*).

But farmers' group, under the Masipag network, has rejected Bt corn citing its potential adverse effects on human health and the environment.

In a press statement, the group said Bt corn could transfer the genes of genetically engineered crops to common corn varieties, destroying the genes of naturally grown corn.

Bt corn, the group said, could also lead to pests developing resistance to the GMO. It could also introduce allergens into corn and change the crop's nutritional value, the group added.

The group also vowed to block the agriculture department's plan to distribute Monsanto's Bt corn to farmers for the May planting season. Monsanto, a US-based multinational firm, had conducted field trials of Bt corn amid protests from various farmers' groups.

Corn, soybean and cotton, genetically engineered for pest control, are widely planted in the United States where the government had established regulations governing the production and consumption of foods produced through genetic engineering.

Farmers and environment watchgroups in the Philippines said there are no safeguards in place for the ill effects of the genetically engineered crops. They are instead calling for widespread support for organic and sustainable agriculture.

Alternatives

Georie Pitong, coordinator of Masipag for the Visayas and among those who joined the sympathy fast, claimed that their group has already bred non-Bt corn that is resistant to corn borer. Masipag also introduced planting and farm management techniques that could minimize damages from corn borers, which drill horns in the nodes of corn and dry corn tassels, among others.

One such technique is planting decoy plants such as okra, mung bean and string beans that corn borers would likely choose over the corn crop. "Bt corn is not the only answer against corn borer," said Pitong.

The protest against the commercialization of genetically engineered crops would also be discussed in the upcoming peasant-clergy conference on May 15 in the Archdiocese of Jaro on the occasion of the feast day of St. Isidore, the patron saint of farmers.

In a pastoral letter, Archbishop Angel Lagdameo said that day would be spent promoting sustainable agriculture and diversified and integrated organic farming. Priests all over the archdiocese are asked to preach on the life and situation of farmers and to organize meetings where problems of farmers are aired and solved.

A BAGUIO resident digs his teeth into a corn cob, unmindful of Andrew Haralam (in background) an American Peace Corps volunteer who has gone fasting in Baguio City to protest the production of GMOs in the Philippines. EV ESPIRITU/PDI NORTHERN LUZON

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Palace 'power bloc' seen behind woes of 11 farmers over land

By Leti Boniol

FOUR of 11 agrarian reform beneficiaries who have been fighting to get back the land given to them in 1977 under the land reform program have already died but their case remains unresolved today, 26 years after.

The farmers of Barangay Luna in Surigao City and their families are appealing for support from President Macapagal-Arroyo to repossess the 29-hectare rice land that they once cultivated as tenants and was given to them in November 1977.

Corazon Valenzuela, representative of the 11 holders of Certificates of Land Transfer (CLTs), told the INQUIRER that the case dragged on because of the influence of powerful people.

She said the lawyers of the "former owners" of the land belong to the Villaraza & Angangco Law Offices, reportedly a "powerful Palace bloc."

"No wonder the case took so long to be resolved, the law office is very influential," Valenzuela said.

She said she realized this only when she read reports about the law office published in the INQUIRER.

Valenzuela said she will even take to the streets to help farmers Cosme Resare, Paquito Resare, Antonio Resare, Rogelio Resare, Felipe Resare, Andres Castillo, Felix Degamon, Gabriel Eludo, Enrique Tomogbong, Luz Corvera and Jose Setorre.

Revocation orders

The Department of Agrarian Reform had already issued two orders, one on Aug. 27, 2001 and another on Sept. 6, 2002, revoking a 1977 land conversion order of ex-agrarian reform minister Conrado Estrella, she said.

But the "owners," Fanny Cortez Garcia and Inocencio Development Corp., fought the orders.

The DAR "erred and/or acted with grave abuse of discretion," argued the lawyer of Garcia.

The case stemmed from the approval in December 1977 of Garcia's petition to have the land used for housing.

Garcia wanted to build a low-cost housing project, records show. Estrella approved the application, but on seven conditions.

Among the conditions were that farmers would be paid compensation, and that they would be given residential lots.

Ten farmers gave up their rights to the land, surrendering their CLTs to Garcia.

Idle land

But in 1979, the farmers reoccupied the land, after seeing that it had remained idle, Valenzuela said.

The farmers also continued paying amortization for 15 years, she said.

In 1992, a portion of the land had been turned into a bus and jeepney terminal. Two hectares were sold to the Surigao City government.

The farmers filed a case with the DAR Adjudicatory Board (DARAB) to nullify the sale. But the DARAB dismissed the case for in 1994. They appealed but it was dismissed again in 1997. They were ejected after.

The farmers went to the Court of Appeals but to no avail. Finally, the farmers sought help from Malacañang, which referred the case to the DAR.

Former Secretary Hernani Braganza revoked the land conversion.

The DAR argued that the conversion permit was for a housing project, not a terminal.

Surrendered rights

But the corporation said the farmers lost their rights when they surrendered their CLTs and received compensation.

As the cases went on, buildings for the San Nicolas College/Saint Paul University were built on another portion of the disputed property, despite a cease and desist order from DAR.

The college had been inaugurated last month, Valenzuela said, but the case remained unsolved.

She said she had written Luna Barangay Captain Nilo Aldonza to stop the construction but to no avail.

Valenzuela said she asked the Surigao City mayor to implement DAR's revocation order last year, but the mayor said the case is not within his jurisdiction.

Valenzuela said the surviving farmers continue to plant kangkong and other vegetables in their backyards, which they sell in the market, to survive.

Fear of SARS spares Boracay, says DOT exec

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—SARS or no SARS, the world renowned Boracay Island remains to be the country's top tourist destination.

The dreaded disease has failed to dampen tourist arrivals in the island resort, data from the regional office of the Department of Tourism showed.

DOT regional director Edwin Trompeta said tourist arrivals in Boracay, famous for its fine white sand beaches, have increased especially during the Holy Week.

"So far, we have not observed any impact of the SARS scare on tourist arrivals on the island," said Trompeta. He said the two long holiday weekends (Holy Week and during the Labor Day) have helped boost tourist arrivals in Boracay.

Quoting the results of a survey conducted by the tourism department of eight resorts and hotels on the island, Trompeta said most hotels were fully booked during the Holy Week on April 16-20.

"Many of the resorts were short of rooms to accommodate the influx of tourists," Trompeta told the INQUIRER in a telephone interview.

According to the tourism department records, room occupancy was pegged from a low of 74 percent to a high of 100 percent. Almost all of the hotels and resorts on the island that were surveyed by the tourism department were fully booked for three straight days from April 17-19. Most of the guests were domestic tourists.

Foreigners

Aklan Gov. Florencio Miraflores, under whose province Boracay falls, admitted that there has been a decrease in the number of foreign tourists, especially Koreans, who visit the island resort.

The Koreans are the top foreign visitors in Boracay. "But (the number of) domestic tourists has tremendously increased more than making up for the decline (in the number) of foreign tourists," said Miraflores in a telephone interview.

Miraflores said the local government and quick response teams of the provincial government's health units are ready to respond to cases of SARS either from foreign or domestic tourists.

He said any tourist who would display symptoms of the disease would be immediately quarantined in the hotel or resort where he or she is billeted until the possible SARS patient has been examined by physicians.

The patient will be transported to hospitals designated as capable of handling suspected SARS cases. In the case of Boracay, the nearest hospital is the West Visayas Medical Center in Iloilo City.

"We are prepared for any eventualities (sic)," said the governor.

Money

More than 300,000 tourists, mostly domestic tourists, visited the island and poured in P5.5 billion into the local economy last year, according to records of the tourism department's regional office. The number of tourists is 13.59 percent higher than the figure recorded in 2001.

SARS has killed hundreds of people worldwide and has infected thousands. One of the heaviest hit country is China.

Aid for domestic planes planned in bid vs SARS

AIRPORT authorities are studying a package that would give relief to domestic airlines that are suffering from a sharp decrease in the number of passengers due to the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome scare.

According to Edgardo Manda, Manila International Airport Authority general manager, the scheme is likely to be patterned after that which was designed for international commercial airlines.

In a statement, Manda said the same scheme that was also approved by Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon may be applied to domestic airlines should the study find it feasible.

In a recent meeting with members of the Board of Airline Representatives held on May 8, Gordon and Manda announced the following measures that they said would provide relief to airlines that are suffering from plunging incomes due to the SARS scare:

- 10 percent discount on landing and take-off fees for all commercial flights.
- 15 percent discount on extra commercial flights that airlines would add to their original scheduled flights.
- A freeze on any increase in rates for all airport-related fees and charges that are applicable initially to international airlines.
- 50 percent discount on the prescribed rates of landing and take-off fees, parking fees and lighting charges for ferry flights of aircraft and aircraft parts or crew members; technical landing by non-scheduled flights; rest overnight of crew members and aircraft.

According to Gordon and Manda, the discounts would take effect starting May 1 to July 31, or a period of three months.

"While we would have wanted to provide higher discounts and more relief (to the airlines), the Miaa is likewise faced with its own financial burdens," said Manda in his statement.

"In fact the airport authority will stand to lose about P50 million during the three-month effectivity of the relief package," he said.

"However, this is our way of showing to our airline industry partners that this administration is sympathetic to its plight and would extend whatever assistance is possible under the circumstances," he added.

Docs checking if another Pinay in HK died of SARS

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Another Filipina from Mabalacat town, who lived in Hong Kong for 10 years, has died of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, according to a provincial board member here.

The board member, who requested anonymity, said the woman, whose initials are CN, died on April 29. Her body has been cremated but her relatives were still waiting for the arrival of her ashes from Hong Kong, the official said.

The official, quoting the reports of the woman's relatives, said CN lived in the same Hong Kong building where CY lived.

Dr. Ethelyn Nieto, Department of Health director in Central Luzon, said she was not aware of CN's case but was having this checked with municipal health officials.

She said CN could be the second Kapampangan to have died of a typical pneumonia. The first was CY, also of Mabalacat.

In a related development, a top health official said the ashes of CY could have "possibly arrived" in Pampanga last Monday and was hastily buried that same night.

CY's relatives had declined interviews but told municipal officials they wanted the ashes buried in Hong Kong where CY's family lives. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

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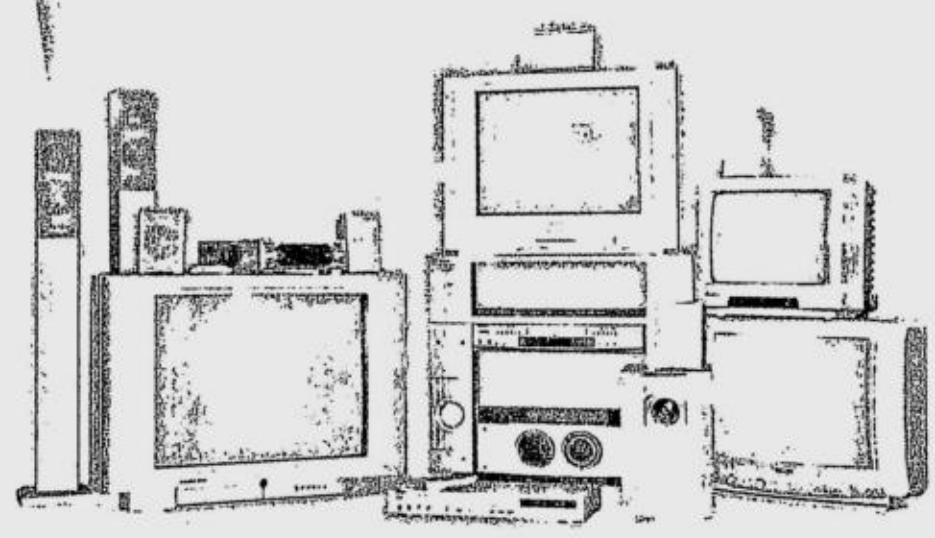

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Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Man communes with nature on Tudaya

By Leonard Paul Palo
Davao City

WHEN EVERYTHING feels like an uphill struggle, just think of the view from the top."

This thought was exactly what was racing through my head during our long and intense journey toward the concealed and very treacherous Tudaya Falls, located somewhere at the foot of the famous Mt. Apo during the Holy Week.

A lot of people might be wondering why some people (like myself) would go out of their way to punish themselves by climbing some of the country's most dangerous mountain peaks or visiting the most untamed parts of the country.

"These guys must be crazy or something."

Nope, none of us are crazy (at least none as yet), and neither does anyone of us have a death wish. We just love the great outdoors and we're always out looking for a unique and totally rare adventure that we can narrate to our children when we grow old, and this is definitely one of those stories to tell.

My group and I were just a small fraction of the 36-member crew who would be embarking on this not-so-easy journey.

The ascent was an activity of the Pundok Habagat handled by one of our friends.

Mixture

The group was a mixture of sorts, and nearly one fourth of the gang had very little or had no climbing experience at all to boot. This made things a lot more challenging and little did we know that this would be one of the toughest tasks we'd face.

In the early morning of April 17, we started our trek toward the campsite passing through highly forested areas with uphill and very steep single-track trails.

My ordeal continued as we passed through a 50-foot high hanging bridge made out of bamboo, which shook and rattled with every step that we took.

We had to walk through the bridge one at a time since we were not sure if it could hold the weight of two or three people crossing it at the same time.

Our first five-hour stop for lunch was in a remote area at the side of the mountain where we soothed our aching muscles and took some much-needed rest for the continuation of our trek.

My pack was unusually heavy with all the pieces of group equipment stuffed inside it, from the gas burner and the cooking set down to Ryan Lim's camera. It was hell carrying it up the trail but, fortunately, some of my companions were kind enough to help me shoulder my burden.

With three more hours left to reach the campsite, we finally proceeded walking through the thick brush and I was already suffering severe cramps on both legs. Nevertheless, I kept pushing myself to tread on. I couldn't risk being left behind in the woods especially with nightfall about to come.

Exhaustion

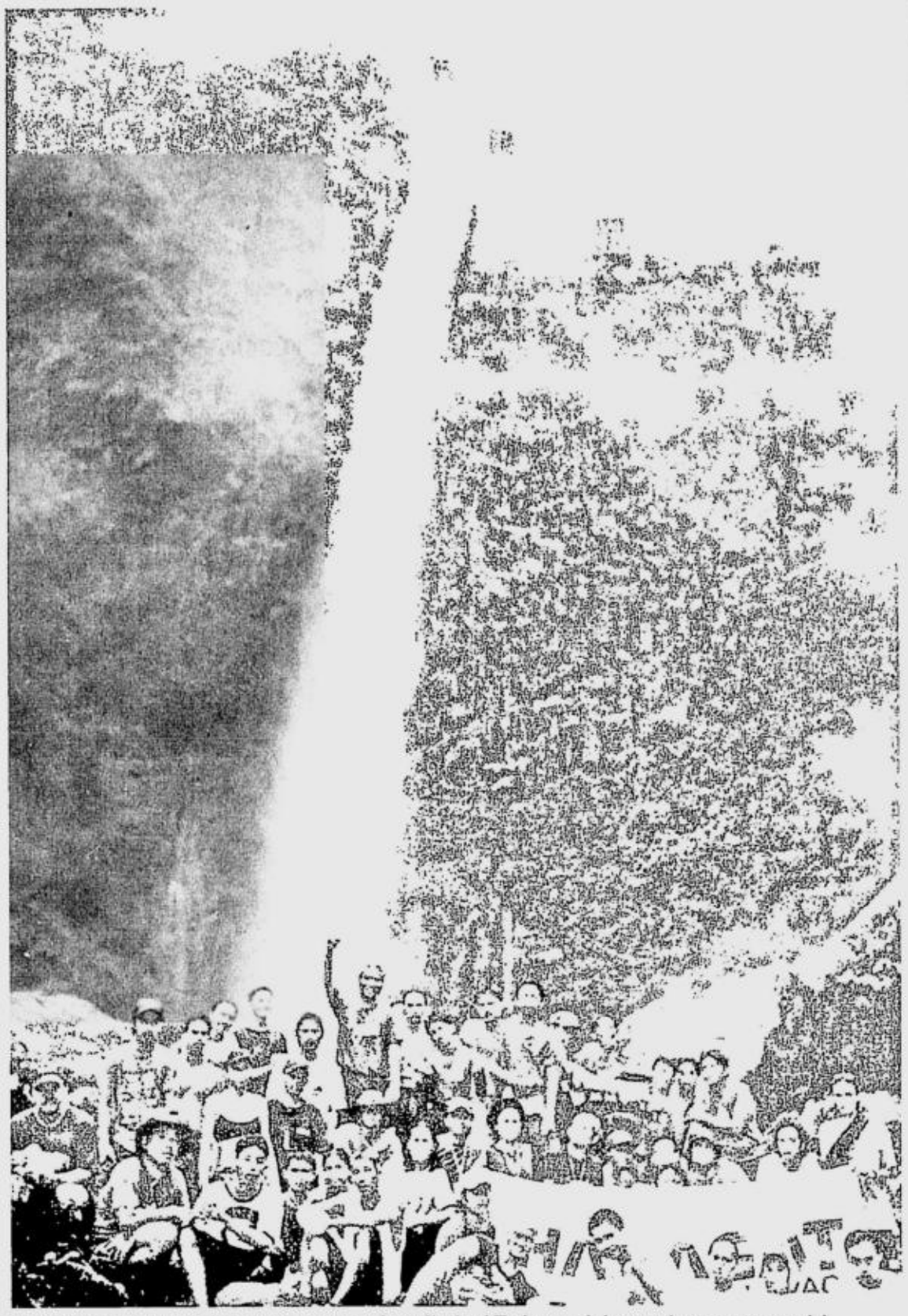
Around 3 or 4 p.m. we finally got to the campsite and began pitching our tent and unloading our equipment. The group went to bed early that night due to sheer exhaustion. A slight downpour ensued in the evening.

On the next day, we set off toward Tudaya Falls just before lunch and we slowly and carefully negotiated the slippery and narrow trail down the side of the mountain. Before our descent, Paul told us to use gloves and to be extra watchful of what we grab on to for balance or anchorage.

We even had to use ropes in some sections of the trail because there was simply nothing to grab on to.

The trail apparently had some Poison Ivy—which was why we had to use gloves just in case—and leeches were also sighted in some portions of the track.

As an extra precautionary tip, Paul told us to wear our trek shoes instead of our walking sandals to prevent the slimy blood sucking mollusks from getting their fill and to help us gain more traction.



WINNING a mountain over, the group that climbed Tudaya celebrates its commune with nature.

RYAN LIM/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

After two hours of walking downhill, we finally reached our destination and it was just like what all of us had imagined. Tudaya was truly a sight to behold and all of us were ecstatic when we finally caught a glimpse of its high and mighty cascade.

The waters in Tudaya were ice-cold and I couldn't help taking a quick dip to ease my already stiff limbs. No wonder some locals called this place "Heaven on Earth."

The area is totally refreshing and I easily forgot how difficult and dangerous it was to get there.

After our lunch and a few hours of soaking in the chilly water, we headed back to the campsite, where our uphill trek was surprisingly faster than our descent. We had a short but fun-filled gathering for the night where we talked about each of our experiences as well as our personal awakenings.

It's amazing how an activity like this could reveal one's true nature and I was stunned to find out that some things or some people are not really who or what they seem to be. My friend Lito, who brought along his son during the climb, told us that the reason why he made it a point to come along was because he wanted to share something with his child which his dad never had time to share with him as a boy when he was growing up.

Felina, one of our companions, said she joined the activity to test her physical limits while most of our other climbing mates said that they joined the ascent simply because they felt that the group was family and that the mountain and the great outdoors were their refuge.

They say you can tell the real character of a person once you've climbed a mountain with him. This experience definitely proved that remark.

Going back to our itinerary, the group was not only there to visit Tudaya Falls, we were also there to collect the garbage that some irresponsible visitors left behind. For the whole duration of the climb, we were picking up pieces of plastic, cans and other foreign non-biodegradable materials lying around the trail.

Garbage

When it was finally time to head home, we had collected at least two or three large bags of garbage that we decided to take with us for proper disposal.

It's very sad to know that amidst a lot of information campaigns for the protection and preservation of the environment, there are still people who don't give a damn about mother nature, and this is the very reason why we go on these trips to clean up after these folks.

Our route back to the city was less taxing than our assault on Tudaya. We only had to overcome one steep hill to get to Kapatagan where a vehicle would ferry us back to civilization.

The trek only lasted three hours and we were back home just in time for dinner.

No matter how difficult or stressful our trek to Tudaya Falls might have been, it was well worth all the effort. And if I were asked to visit the area once more, I wouldn't hesitate to go back and re-live the experience. After all, nothing beats the idea of having an adventure in the great outdoors.

Mindanaoans speak on peace talks between gov't, MILF

THE GOVERNMENT has suspended the scheduled exploratory talks with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) negotiating panel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia this weekend following the MILF attack on Siocon town in Zamboanga del Norte.

Ghazali Jaafar, MILF vice chair for political affairs, said the Siocon attack was aimed at the military and it "went out of hand." The group's spokesperson, Eid Kabalu, said it was part of the continuing offensive that started when government forces overran the MILF's lair and alleged headquarters of its chair, Salamat Hashim, in Buliok Complex, Pikit, North Cotabato in February.

The military, however, said the Siocon assault was a plain and simple attack on the civilian populace.

The chicken-and egg debate continues.

But should government stop the peace process?

Mayor Maria Clara Lobregat
Zamboanga City

The national government should stop its peace negotiations with the MILF as it is useless. Look what they have done in Siocon.

It is useless to talk to the MILF where most of its commanders cannot even control their men from committing atrocities against helpless civilians.

The national government should adopt an iron-fist policy when it comes to dealing with the rebels.

Fr. Bert Layson, OMI
Parish priest
Pikit, North Cotabato

All peaceful means must be explored as long as both sides are still willing to talk peace. Peace negotiation is the only way to peace.

Joey Nacalaban
Photojournalist
SunStar Cagayan de Oro City

Not anymore. The MILF rebels are not anymore interested for they keep on attacking the government, military and the civilians. There should be a total ceasefire. They should respect whatever they have agreed upon.

Dennis Joseph Rivamonte
Teacher
Davao City

Honestly I don't know what to believe. I guess both sides have not been true to their end of the deal. The MILF goes on with their terroristic activities while the government goes on with their clandestine activities. For me it's a farce. Ok to continue if both parties will be faithful to what has been agreed upon. *Dapat sa kanilang lahat,* values education.

Celestino Arugay
Public school teacher
Cotabato City

It's government's policy that is defective. If its policy is to crush the MILF, then it can easily do it. But what is happening now that is government's policy against Muslim rebellion has been tentative. Like "urong-sulong" attitude, the government launches offensives against MILF then halt it to pave the way for peace talks. While negotiations are ongoing, the MILF builds its ranks. Once and for all, the government must use its full might against the MILF. If not, collect all their firearms by using the Army and PNP, then start negotiating with them.

VERBATIM

Gov. Emmanuel Pinol
North Cotabato

Continue negotiations for political settlement provided the MILF lays down its firearms and abides by the laws of the land.

Vice Mayor Erico Basilio Fabian
Zamboanga City

While the peace talks would have augured well for the residents of Mindanao as it is in search of lasting peace, nevertheless we have to respect the decision made by President Macapagal-Arroyo of canceling the talks.

Ariel Casilao
Secretary general
Karapatan-Southern Mindanao

Yes. No amount of heightened military action can solve the centuries-old problem of the Bangsamoro people in Mindanao.

The government is not really sincere in forging peace with the MILF group. We know that while Ermita is doing formal efforts, back-channeling negotiations with the Moro group, Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes and his generals are declaring continued military offensives.

Although the MILF also violated some provisions, it is very clear that more of the violations came from the government through their military offensives. The ultimate conflict resolution is going back to the negotiating table. The government should be very sincere about the peace talks and should have a very clear framework of the negotiations that would address the root cause of rebellion in Mindanao.

Sheilah Mae Llena
Student
Davao City

The peace talks should continue. Communication is always the key and possible solution to every conflict.

Rep. Faysah Dumarpa
1st District Lanao del Sur

Yes. I believe that hostilities should not hinder the pursuit for peace as critics could not present an alternative proposal to attain peace. It is rather best for us political leaders to be sober, refrain from rocking the boat for it could only be disastrous to the efforts in putting an end to the centuries-old Mindanao conflict.

Adolfo Araneta
Businessman
Zamboanga City

The peace talks is useless as it is only used by the MILF to get more time to recruit new members.

Dr. Ernest Guevara
Director, Balik-Kalipay
Pikit, North Cotabato

Critical yes. Resumption of talks does not guarantee that conflicts will not rise again. But it is only through such process that people caught in the middle of the conflict can participate in finding a lasting solution to the problem.

Arvin Castro
Internet shop assistant
Cagayan de Oro City

I don't think so. If the peace negotiation with the MILF continues, I think they could be more active in their atrocities.

Eid Kabalu
MILF Spokesperson

Depending on the decision of the government. One party cannot do it alone. The peace talks, to clarify, have been suspended since October 2001. What has been done or have been going on is back-channeling. There is nothing to suspend. If the government does not want it then there is nothing we can do. We cannot have the talks alone to resolve the Mindanao problem peacefully. The government is pursuing military solution.

Celia Santos
Director, Community and Family Services International
North Cotabato

It has taken a second generation of Filipinos to grow up with war in their midst. Two agreements were signed but the implementation was not adhered by the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. If there are no peace talks, it will reinforce (sic) that there is no serious intention after all and it would put people to a choice of breaking up a country.

Rafael Vilela
Sports trainer
Davao City

No. It is double talk. Officials are talking peace while the soldiers are killing.

Ronilo Dusaban
Project Manager
United Nations Multi-Donor Program
North Cotabato

There's no alternative to peace talks. Using guns to resolve the problem in Mindanao will be effective. There are many solutions, other than going to war, and let's not leave a single stone unturned in trying all these options . . . peace talks, is the best way. Let us not be deceived by some personal interest of those who want war to resolve the Mindanao conflict. Mindanao people deserve peace. *Interviews by Edwin O. Fernandez, Grace Cantal-Albasin, Jeffrey M. Tupas, Joselle R. Badilla, Rolly A. San Juan, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Losing model daughter a mother's burden

Dr. Mom's prescription ...

From page A1

By Leoncio Balbin Jr.
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

MANABO, Abra—Lolita Dalingay is hurting, but is putting up a brave front for her family's sake.

Lolita is the 62-year-old mother of Adela Dalingay, the first Filipino Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) fatality. Adela died in Hong Kong last March.

"I just bear the great pain to myself. I do not want my family to see me suffering because they could be affected," a teary-eyed Lolita told the INQUIRER.

Her husband and eight other children try to carry on with their normal routine, spent mostly in a farm in their village of San Ramon West.

She said losing Adela, whom she described as a "model" daughter, was too great a burden to carry.

During the INQUIRER interview at the Dalingays' ancestral home here, Lolita held Adela's framed photograph, lovingly glancing at it from time to time. The photograph was a gift from the Philippine consulate in Hong Kong.

Relatives credit Lolita with molding Adela, the second eldest, and her other children into becoming responsible members of their community.

Lolita completed only grade school but, with the help of her husband, Gregorio, she patiently taught her children household chores and farm work.

Her eldest sister, Arsenia Manangan, described Lolita as "soft spoken, understanding and patient."

"Her patience and understanding molded the good character of her nine children," Manangan said.

She said it was very seldom that she heard Lolita shout at her children.

Lolita said she always stressed to her children the importance of happiness and cooperation in the family. She said her children understood that they were poor and would need to rely on each other and their small farm to improve their lives.

Lolita said the desire to help uplift the family's life was foremost in Adela's mind.

After completing a six-month computer course in New Era College in 1993, Adela applied as a domestic helper in Hong Kong.

Lolita said she was initially hesitant to allow her daughter, then in her early 20s, to work abroad, but "Adela insisted on it because she wanted to help send her brothers to school."

Adela's 10-year stay in Hong Kong helped improve the life of the Dalingays.

"Adela understood very well our limited resources and we are very thankful to her," Lolita said.

On March 19, during what would be their last telephone conversation, Adela sought Lolita's advice on her plan to return home for good. She told her mother she wanted to return to Abra to be with her husband Angelito Bentalan.

Adela and Angelito were married in civil rites in September last year. The couple has no children.

Lolita said Adela told her she was "too tired" working abroad.

Through Adela's voice, Lolita said she immediately sensed the difficult life her daughter was experiencing. And like most loving mothers, she gave her daughter words of encouragement and supported her decision. She also told Adela to discuss her plans with her husband.

The next day, the Dalingays were informed by relatives in Hong Kong that Adela had been taken to a hospital for an unknown illness. Lolita said the news surprised her because she knew Adela was very healthy and had not experienced any serious illness.

On March 24, the family received word that Adela had died of the mysterious illness that was later diagnosed as SARS.

"It was shocking, there was an unexplainable feeling of sadness," Lolita said.

On March 27, Lolita and her husband, with representatives from the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, flew to Hong Kong to claim Adela's remains.

Lolita said it was doubly painful for her because she did not see her daughter's body before it was cremated. Health officials in Hong Kong authorized only Gregorio to view Adela's body to avoid the possible spread of the virus.

Adela's wish to return home was granted in April. Her ashes, contained in a jar, were buried in her hometown on April 4, her 35th birthday.

treatment, meaning good food and rest are the first resort for healing and health rather than medicines.

And Dayrit should know.

She handled the DOH's maternal and child care program for 13 years before serving as director of the National Capital Region under former Secretary Alfredo Bengzon.

During her time, the expanded program on immunization reached its target of at least 80 percent from 21 percent coverage of infants.

This, of course, included her daughters Sophia Angeli and Rosanna Beatriz,who are both fully vaccinated. Sometimes, she says, she brings them with her on the DOH's "patak" campaigns.

Dayrit also promoted the rewards system for mother-baby friendly hospitals that practice rooming-in and breastfeeding for mothers.

While she embarked on public health programs for the DOH, Dayrit simultaneously handled a more important post: As president of the grade school parents-teachers association, she made sure that there were health safeguards in her daughters' second home.

She says that she and her husband, who are both career officials, had agreed long before they became busy that the children's needs would always be the top priority.

"We had to make a rule: if it's family, it should not be a time to assess priorities. Anything that they need, whether it's an assignment or a ballpen, it has to be our priority. If not, they will be neglected because the children's needs could never compete with a nation's," she says.

Even when the calendar is full, both parents personally attend school affairs. They also make it a point to help out with the kids' homework even after an exhausting day.

But since her husband was appointed SARS czar, Dayrit admits that the parental load became heavier on her side.

Now, she looks out not only for the kids, but for her extremely busy husband as well.

She has to make sure that they do not neglect their health or that they take a break when signs of stress appear.

Just recently, she says, she and the kids had to "force" the health chief to watch a movie "because he's been so stressed out with this SARS issue."

The kids agreed to wait for their dad from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. just to prove that they were serious in taking him on a movie break.

Family togetherness has to be organized as well, and would have to take into consideration the secretary's calendar.

"I have to schedule vacations like a month before. I tell him, free this date, only GMA will disturb this schedule," she says, laughing.

Early mornings and late evenings usually constitute family time for the Dayrits, but because of SARS, some adjustments have been made as well.

"I told them (kids), if you don't see your daddy, just watch TV and you'll know where he is and what he has been doing all day," and they understand, she says.

Such understanding and unselfishness from her kids are values taught early on, Dayrit says. Unlike most children, her daughters do not get bratty when their parents cannot immediately attend to them.

Their older daughter Sophia wants to be a doctor like her parents and has shown an interest in science.

"We teach them, but we cannot over-teach because they get bored. When you see that, you stop the lecture," she says. Their (parents) actions, after all, could easily do the teaching.

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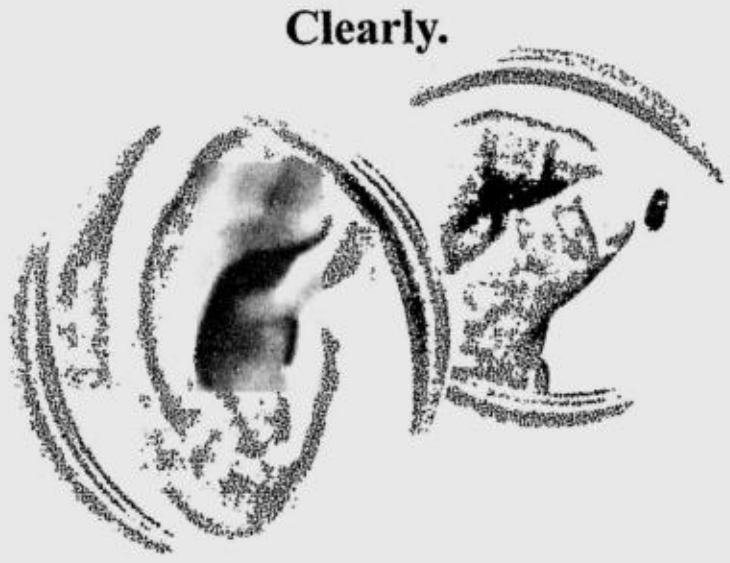

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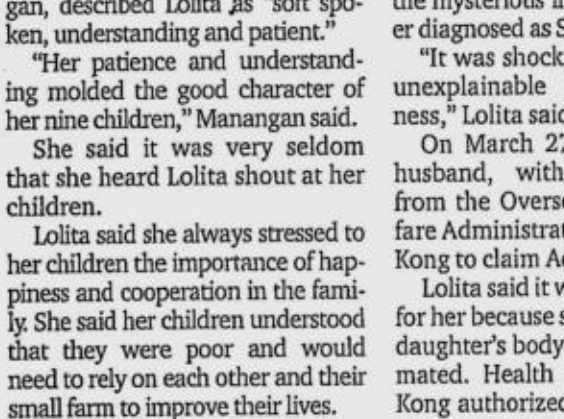

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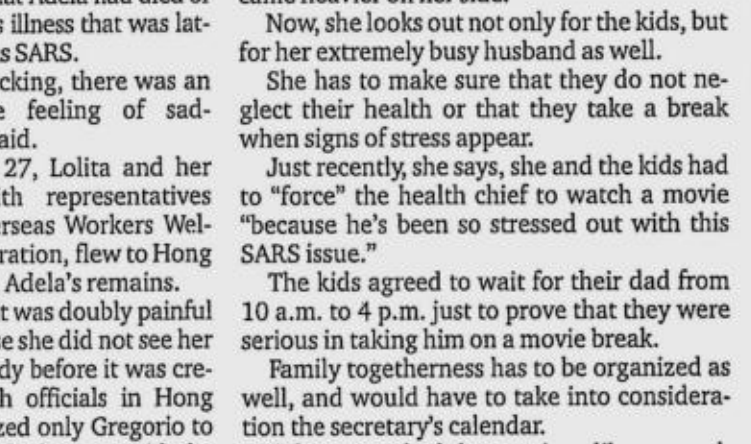

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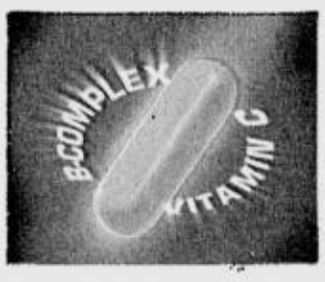

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* from an article by M.P. Macapinlac, M.D., Ph.D.

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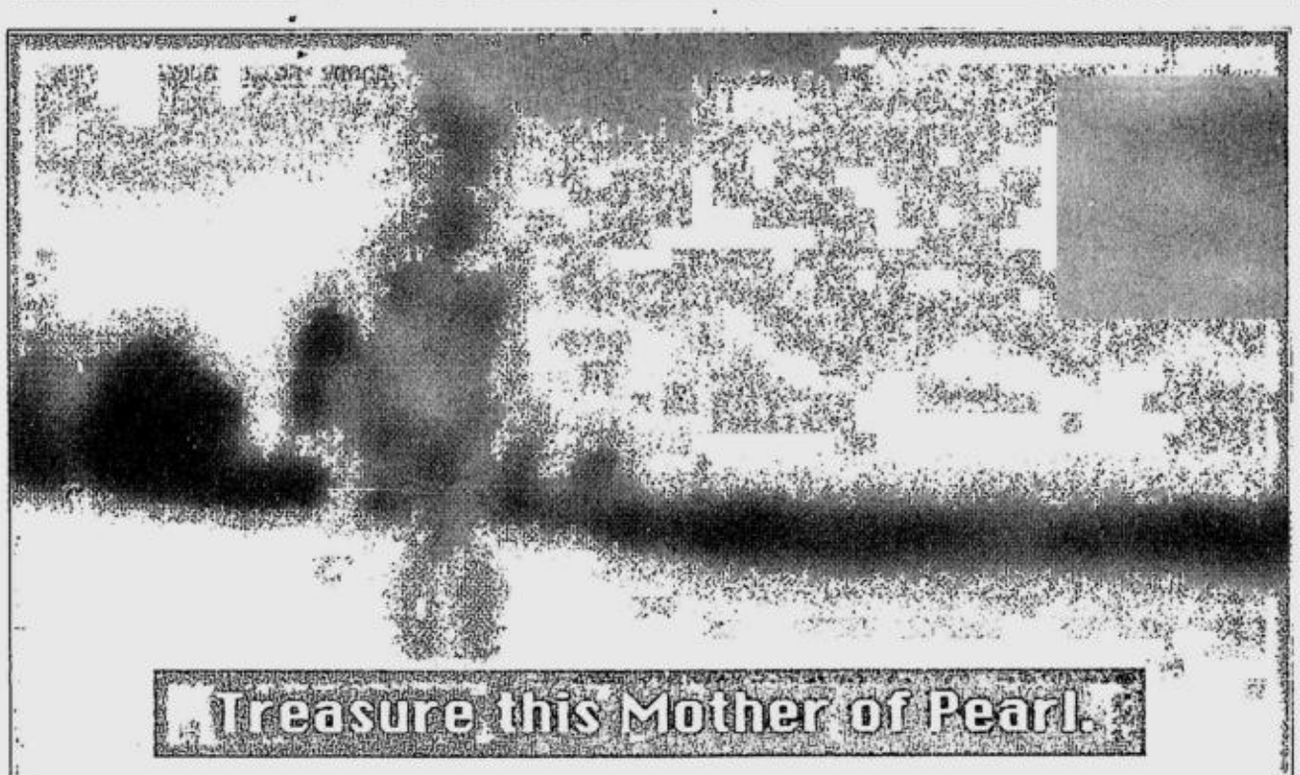

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Dramatic drop . . .

From page A1

secularization, or the loss of values, that causes disillusion. We all need to realize that we have bigger problems than SARS."

Despite these "bigger problems," it is the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome that is almost on everyone's mind.

Many Filipinos working as maids have been advised or prevented by their employers from attending Mass as part of the measures to prevent the spread of the deadly virus. The measures include avoiding confined and crowded places.

"I have friends whose bosses no longer let them go out on Sunday," said Janet Calayan, who was among the crowd last Sunday at the Statue Square, a favorite hangout of Filipino maids on their day off, not too far away from St. Joseph's Church.

Calayan, 24, said she herself had been thus forbidden but that she had reasoned out that she needed her day off to rest and go to church.

"Going to Mass, devoting Sunday to God, is important to me," she said. "But I'm uncomfortable with certain changes, like wearing a mask during Mass. Sometimes I can't breathe, and I can't concentrate, so I take it off."

In its pastoral guidelines issued on March 25, the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong urged all churches in the city to distribute free masks to all Mass-goers. All ministers and priests were told to wear a mask while giving Communion.

The Church has advised against unnecessary contact during Mass. This is why for months now, Communion is given by hand and people do not hold hands while singing the "Our Father" or giving the sign of peace.

Local churches have also stopped providing holy water at the entrances and have arranged regular comprehensive clean-ups.

Piety at home

The faithful who cannot go to Mass have been advised to practice other forms of piety at home, such as praying, reading the Bible or saying the rosary.

"We need to understand the situation of those who cannot go to Mass," Hanly said. "They are exercising the virtues of charity and love because they are thinking of the welfare of the children under their care."

For those who still choose to go to church, St. Joseph's offers "a home away from home," he said, adding that it had not cancelled any religious activity and did not plan to do so.

"We go to work five days a week, anyway, so what's the excuse for not hearing Mass?" said Gigi Onag, 35, bureau chief of a regional publication. "We cannot put our lives on hold simply because the threat of SARS is at our doorstep."

According to Onag, the current crisis is "the time, not to pay lip service, but to put your faith where your mouth is."

"What does it tell about us as Christians when despite SARS we go to the office every day because we fear getting fired and yet refuse to go to church on Sunday?" she said. "Anyway, everyone has a responsibility to keep SARS at bay. Each one should take every precautionary measure available. And if one feels sick, one should stay home."

Fely Laurio was holding a statue of Mary while waiting for her friends in Central.

"In our group (the Legion of Mary), we continue to bring Mama Mary to the houses of those who want Her," she said. "This is the time to continue to keep praying because it is only God who can protect and save us from this."

Elizabeth Sanchez, a magazine editor, said SARS had not stopped her from doing her normal activities, such as going to church or to the gym.

"The Church has taken precautions to prevent the spread of SARS, so I am comfortable with going to Mass every Sunday," Sanchez said. "Wherever we go, the bottom line, I think, is to take care of one's personal hygiene. I wear a mask, too, if only to have peace of mind."

SARS notwithstanding, Filipinos have continued to gather in big groups in Central on Sundays. Their number has shrunk, but the mood is as lively.

No day off

But foreign domestic helpers cried foul Friday over the decision of many employers not to allow them to leave home on their day off for fear that they may catch the SARS virus outside.

A group led by the Asian Migrants Coordinating Body (AMCB) gathered at the Central government offices to demand immediate action.

"It seems SARS has been used by some unscrupulous employers to deny the rights of foreign domestic helpers," said AMCB spokesperson Eni Lestari.

The Philippine Consulate said it was aware of the problem and had met with Hong Kong officials to resolve the issue.

"We have been meeting with the Hong Kong Labor Department on this," Acting Philippine Consul General Domingo Lucenario said yesterday. We recognize that this has caused a strain in the relationship between the employers and their maids."

Lucenario said the situation was a result of the employers' "lack of information on SARS."

"The Labor Department said it will work on guidelines to be given to the employers," he said.

The consulate has received numerous verbal complaints from Filipino maids on the issue, but no formal complaint has yet been filed.

Good news

The good news is that two Filipinos, in hospital since last month for SARS, are recovering and in "very stable condition," Lucenario said.

ND, a male Hong Kong resident and PS, a female domestic helper, are the last two confirmed SARS cases involving Filipinos here.

The consulate said there had been no reported SARS cases involving Filipinos for the last two weeks as overall infections in the city continued to decline.

Cremation for CY

The remains of CY, the second Filipino to die of SARS in Hong Kong, were cremated yesterday after a solemn ceremony attended by a small group of family members and Lucenario.

The family plans to take her ashes to her hometown in Pampanga.

CY, who was married to a Chinese resident, died on May 3 at the United Christian Hospital in Kwun Tong, Kowloon district, after a month-long battle with SARS.

With the improving conditions here, the Philippine government said it was considering lifting the ban on deploying Filipino domestic helpers to Hong Kong "very soon," Lucenario said.

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Ex-generals say Gracia's charges aimed at selling book

By TJ Burgonio

A GROUP of retired military and police generals thinks that Gracia Burnham's statements against the Armed Forces were intended to boost the sale of her book.

The Association of Generals and Flag Officers (Agfo) yesterday made public an angry resolution saying that Burnham's claim of collusion between the military and the Abu Sayyaf was "unfair and misleading," and that it has caused "demoralization and confusion" among the soldiers who continue to pursue the bandit group in the jungles of Sulu.

"The Agfo views with dismay and contempt the treatment of this particular accusation of collusion between some military officers and the Abu Sayyaf," retired Gen. Ernesto Gidaya, chair and president of Agfo, said in the resolution passed Friday.

Gidaya said "such innuendoes" were now being viewed as truth despite coming from a questionable source such as the Abu Sayyaf.

He also said the American missionary's "shocking revelations" were "irresponsible gimmicks" designed to "provoke a controversy in order to promote the sale" of her book.

He urged both government officials and the public not to lose trust in the military and police "who have given their lives for the sake of national security and peace in our communities."

In an interview over dzMM, the spokesperson of President Macapagal-Arroyo said she expected "formal closure" to result from the investigation that she had ordered into Burnham's statements.

Only through a formal inquiry can the military be cleared of wrongdoing once and for all, Ignacio Bunye said.

He said that even if the statements were based on hearsay, Ms Macapagal still wanted the matter looked into.

"The President really wants a formal closure on this issue, so that the issue is not left hanging," he said, adding that it was "very important" to Ms Macapagal "to have a good explanation" for the speculations about a collusion that first emerged as early as 2001.

When news of the publication of Burnham's book first came out Wednesday, Bunye said the President was leaving it to the AFP to address the matter. But on Thursday, she ordered a "formal and thorough investigation" by the Departments of Justice and of Foreign Affairs into Burnham's statements.

She also directed the DFA to coordinate with US officials to get Burnham's testimony.

With her enemies

In her book "In the Presence of My Enemies," Burnham recounted her and her husband Martin's abduction from the Dos Palmas resort in Palawan in May 2001 and their 377 days as captives of the Abu Sayyaf.

She said that food and medicine appeared to have been regularly supplied the Abu Sayyaf during their ordeal, and that a Filipino general had demanded a 50-percent cut of the ransom paid for her and Martin's release.

She also said it was military fire that had killed Martin and Filipino nurse Edibora Yap during the rescue operation in June last year.

In the wake of the furor stirred by Burnham's book, the US Embassy in Manila issued Friday a statement in her behalf which said that she was not accusing "anybody in particular" and was "just relating" what she had been told by her captors.

Speaking of the soldiers who died during the rescue efforts, Burnham said: "We want their loved ones to know that we appreciate the sacrifice they made for us and we honor their memory."

The Senate committee on national defense chaired by Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr. has recommended that the military convene a court martial to investigate Maj. Gen. Romeo Dominguez, Col. Juvenal Narcise and Maj. Eliseo Campued for collusion with the Abu Sayyaf.

But to date, the military committee assigned to act on the Senate recommendation—led by Rear Adm. Edgardo Israel, AFP Inspector General—has yet to show clear progress. No deposition from any of the three officers cited has been taken.

After conducting a similar inquiry, the House defense committee chaired by Surigao del Sur Rep. Prospero Pichay said there was insufficient evidence to shore up the allegation of collusion against the AFP.

The congressional investigations were conducted as a result of statements of various witnesses, including Cirilo Nacorda, parish priest of Lamitan, Basilan, that government troops allowed the Abu Sayyaf, along with their hostages, to elude a dragnet around a hospital in the town in June 2001.

At the House, Cagayan de Oro Rep. Constantino Jaraula has filed a resolution urging Pichay's committee to reopen its investigation into the alleged collusion.

But Pamalakaya, a militant fisherfolk group, yesterday sought Pichay's exclusion from any such inquiry.

Pamalakaya national chair Fernando Hicap said in a statement that Pichay's "extreme bias for the military" was one of the reasons that led to the dismissal of the case of collusion.

"For truth and objectivity's sake, the House leadership must take away the command post from Pichay, who is a certified apologist for the military establishment," Hicap said.

Hurting

Burnham may have explained her statements, but the military is still hurting.

"We feel hurt. We have been unfairly accused," Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Garcia, AFP vice chief of staff and spokesperson, said in a phone interview.

He added: "The best thing to do is just to pick up the pieces."

Nevertheless, Garcia said, the military will continue its mission to go after the Abu Sayyaf in Mindanao. "We will not be distracted by this despite the damage to the reputation and prestige of the Armed Forces," he said.

Garcia also said the inspector general has been collecting evidence since March. He said it would be up to Israel to decide whether to summon Burnham to a preliminary investigation preparatory to the convening of a court martial.

"If she can shed light on the case, that's good," he said, but hinted that he saw no need for the missionary to submit to investigation in light of her recent statement.

Garcia has been vocal about the AFP's hurt feelings.

On Friday, he said the military was "hurt" by media "accusations" of collusion between the military and the Abu Sayyaf.

"There is no demoralization. We are hurt and feel we are being unfairly accused by the media, not by Gracia Burnham," he said.

Citing the "headlines and all that are based on nothing," Garcia said: "I think the media should start asking themselves how this developed, when it came out, how it exploded."

He told reporters that with Burnham herself denying on interviews with CNN and Fox News that she had accused the military of wrongdoing, "I think we have taken something small and blown it up, and now some irreparable damage has been done."

Garcia advised the media to police their ranks and to operate within accepted journalistic practices and ethics. "[They should] not jump to conclusions," he said. "Nobody has yet read the book. Nobody knows in what context that portion [on the collusion] appears in the overall context of the book." *With reports from Dona Z. Pazzibugan in Manila; Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

ENRIQUE ZOBEL: The bank goes to the people who want to help themselves.

EZ's bank requires . . .

From page A1

Japanese occupation.

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Unrelieved poverty

In an interview last week at his Ayala-Alabang residence, the 76-year-old Zobel said he had long been concerned over the unrelieved poverty in Calatagan, where those who dare to start small businesses have had to resort to loans sharks and their usurious "5-6" schemes.

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But he stressed that "we only help the poor who are hard-working. *Hindi ito limos* (This is not charity). It is our way to help them gain self-respect, let them be self-reliant and take pride in what they do."

His little Banco has been transforming lives in a big way even with loans as small as P8,000 per depositor, payable up to 120 days at two-percent interest a month.

The money usually ends up building small backyard businesses in fisheries, farming or livestock, roadside eateries, variety stores, bakeries, beauty parlors and wet market stalls.

Total savings

Nine months after it opened, Banco now has 649 depositors with total savings of about P5.3 million. Total loans granted so far amount to P4.4 million for 415 individuals, reported Rene Lawenko, a Banco ng Masa director.

Lawenko said the bank whose individual depositors feel a measure of personal gratitude to their "Señor Zobel," capitalizes on the traditional virtue of *palabra de honor* (word of honor) which is a known Batangueño trait.

Values seminar

Hence, one of the requirements for loan applicants is to attend a short seminar on "values formation, wherein we remind them that a true Batangueño keeps his promises and pays his debts," he said.

Sadly, Zobel noted, such ideals seem to be fading in the more urbanized communities where there may be "too many *pilosopos*" keen on citing technicalities just to escape their obligations.

Banco is the offshoot of the EZ Foundation's Palabra de Honor microfinancing program which started in 1998.

Marianito Canonigo, another Banco director, said the PDH program was inspired by the micro-finance principle successfully applied by the Grameen Bank of Bangladesh: "Instead of the people going to the bank, it should be the bank going to the people."

Character is collateral

It's also not entirely true that Banco does not look for collateral in its borrowers, "because your own character can be your collateral," Canonigo explained.

Before granting a loan, the bank employs community organizers who check on a borrower's credit standing with his other trading partners and on his overall reputation in the community, he said.

This "social investigation" also checks if the borrower will use the money for business "and not just to buy a refrigerator or fund a wedding reception," he added.

"Because we're not only into lending but building one's dignity, industry and sense of *pakikisama*," said Lawenko. "It's useless to give someone money if he's not known to be hard working."

The loan applicant should therefore show that he or she has already started a small business that just needs additional capital.

"As Mr. Zobel said, why should you help people who do not want to help themselves? So we select only those who our chair calls the 'working poor'," he stressed.

With EZ as their chair and president, the bank's other officials are Albert King, vice president; Patrick Lugui, board secretary; Ramon Lagoc, Maricel Genzola, Teodulo Caisip and Bernardino Casanova, directors.

No pay for bank officials

The bank's profits are used to continue funding its lending activities and the foundation's various projects. Officials do not receive any compensation or other non-monetary privileges.

Banco ng Masa is only the latest in a long list of EZ's undertakings for the less privileged.

In 1988, he distributed one hectare each to his 36 employees in Hacienda Bigaa in Calatagan in a unique land reform scheme that left other, less generous landlords puzzled at the time.

When he headed the Ayala Corp. in the '70s, he did something almost unimaginable even for most CEOs today—invite a representative of the labor union to join the board.

In the post-Marcos years, Zobel made headlines for testifying before a Senate inquiry on the hidden wealth of the late dictator, including gold certificates and dollar deposits stashed away around the world.

An agronomist by training, he developed a friendship with peasant rebel leader Luis Taruc. The Huk Supremo addresses Zobel simply as "Ka Iking" in acknowledgement of EZ's immersion in the rugged, rural life in Calatagan.

Aside from Banco, the EZ Foundation has financed the construction and rehabilitation of several schools in Calatagan, granted scholarships to the handicapped, and funded medical missions, among other things.

Contempt for idle rich

"When I pass away, half of my fortune will go to the foundation," said Zobel, who in the INQUIRER interview did not hide his contempt for the "idle rich ... who don't care for anyone but themselves."

Banco ng Masa tends to sound like another project put up by some *trapo* politician courting the masses for their votes. But with EZ at its helm, the Batangueños know their beloved *señor* means business with the hopes that they too would build business empires of their own.

Gracia's book a story of love, faith

From page A1

down from mountaintops, seeing the stars in the sky. "I'm sure the songwriter wasn't thinking of Basilan Island when he penned those words. But living in the jungle under the open sky, we could certainly identify with them," she writes.

"We sang this song every day, sometimes several times a day."

Scripture, too.

Sorely missed Bible

The Burnhams suffered sorely from not having a Bible around. Gracia coped with the loss in the same way other persons in captivity in other parts of the world, in other times, had dealt with the loss of freedom: she plumbed her memory. "Another thing that helped my mental outlook, if not my body, was remembering Scripture I had memorized long ago," she writes.

One day, having found a stray piece of paper, she wrote down "all the promises of God" she could recall. She came up with 18 passages or so. "What a comfort it was to review those eternal truths. In the face of the most dreadful circumtances, these were the words of the One I could depend on."

Several weeks later, on Dec. 23, 2001, the Burnhams received a packet of letters. The New Tribes Mission, the organization Martin worked for as a missionary pilot, had prepared a box that, its inventory list declared, contained food items like cheese and soup and diversions like magazines. The Abu Sayyaf pilfered everything, however, and only the letters and the inventory list remained.

One of the letters was a true godsend. "A two-and-a-half-page, single-spaced letter" from her niece Sarah "included long quotations" from the Christian Scripture: passages from Ephesians 1, James 4, Colossians 1, Philippians 1, and so on. "This became our 'Bible'—we read it every day," she writes.

Christmas morning

On Christmas morning, to go with the holiday breakfast (plain rice), she treated Martin by reciting parts of the Christmas narrative from the gospel of Luke, "which I had memorized as a kid."

In June 2002, when she was finally out of the jungle and recovering in the US Embassy in Manila from the botched rescue mission that killed Martin and Ediborah and wounded her in the leg, she saw a Gideon Bible. "What a privilege to hold this book in my hands once again!" she writes. The first thing she read was Psalm 59: "Deliver me from my enemies, O God; protect me from those who rise up against me."

A nurse entered her room and told her to go back to sleep. It was only six in the morning. She tried to comply, but after a few minutes switched on the lamp on her bedside table again. This time, she writes, she read "from my favorite passage" in 2nd Corinthians, part of which went: "Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day."

Martin's example

The title of Gracia's book, cowritten by Dean Marrill of the International Bible Society, is taken from possibly the most famous Psalm of all: Psalm 23, which in its popular translation begins "The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want."

The choice of title marks the book as a Christian's story. The hostages' horrifying ordeal at the hands of the Abu Sayyaf, who used the Koran to justify their actions when it was convenient, is framed by the older, Christian storyline. The experience is both a test of faith, and proof of it.

In many passages, Gracia writes about how Martin's example of composure, his belief that things will eventually turn out right—"I don't intend to make a career of this hostage thing," he told her once—helped lift her spirits and kept her going.

Martin also made Gracia realize they weren't making an outward journey alone; their ordeal had given them a chance to make discoveries about themselves and the faith that sustained them.

Self-discovery

Early in 2002, Martin told her: "You know, here in the mountains I've seen hatred; I've seen bitterness; I've seen greed; I've seen covetousness; I've seen wrongdoing." Gracia nodded in agreement, thinking he was talking about their captors. "I've seen each of these things in myself," Martin continued. "The Lord has been showing me how incredibly sinful I am."

Gracia did not expect that, but her own experience had already prepared her for it. A few months before that talk with Martin, in that (MILF) place they had come to call "Camp Contentment," she had realized that growing hunger had made her "jealous and covetous." She writes: "I realized that when everything is stripped away from you and you have nothing, you find out what you really are down deep inside."

Humor

At other times, Martin's simple faith shone in his humor. He sang funny songs, he rehearsed stand-up comedy lines. Because at one stretch their rice had tasted like soap (the water for cooking had come from same part of the river they used for bathing), he and Gracia shared sudsy jokes, "Hmmm—this is very good rice, with just a hint of Sunsilk!"

During gunbattles, he would buck her up, speaking directly. "Gracia, this isn't the time to cry. You're wasting energy. You need to get a hold of yourself—you can cry later, okay?" Gracia writes.

On several occasions, she told Martin she couldn't go on. Martin would say: "Garcia, you can survive. What do you think the kids would say if you could pick up the phone and call them?"

He also advised her not to think long term. "Just keep walking until the next rest break." It was advice Gracia took to heart. Elsewhere in the book she writes: "My job was... to put one foot in front of the other, to stay alive one more day. We just kept going and praying that we could get back to our children."

Faith strengthened

In an unsent letter he had written to their children sometime in April 2002, almost a year since the kidnapping, Martin said: "I will say my faith has been strengthened. I think your mother's has as well."

It is this gift of stronger faith, wrested from what the book makes clear was a brutal animal existence, that Gracia must have had at the back of her mind, when she chose the passage from Psalm 23 as her title. The full line runs: "You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies."

Feast

There were a few feasts in that year of famine, when sardines and rice were enough cause for excitement. But Gracia couldn't have meant that. The "feast" that had been prepared in the full sight of their captors was a resilient faith—and a deeper understanding of what it means to be human.

"When you stop and think about it, the Abu Sayyaf are not the only 'bad guys,' are they?" she asks. "We all have pockets of darkness inside ourselves."

S. Cotabato blast kills 13

From page A1

rains."

But Reuters quoted Koronadal Mayor Fernando Miguel as saying on radio that the bomber put a package in a tricycle.

"In a few seconds it exploded. The young man carrying the bomb was blown up," he said. "I am here at the scene. The suspected suicide bomber is really dead. His body was blown up, he has no clothes, he is naked."

Posadas earlier said only five people—two of them women—had been confirmed dead. Of the five, only Milagrosa Garcia had been identified at press time.

Dema-ala, who was supervising a team of military bomb experts in Koronadal, announced the discovery of another explosive in front of the Fire Prevention Office, near the public market, at around 5:15 p.m.

He described the bomb, which was detonated, as an 11-kg cylinder of liquefied petroleum gas with an explosive and a timing device attached to it.

MILF suspected

Posadas said police were clueless as to who might have been responsible for the bombing.

But Supt. Rodolfo Tor, Central Mindanao police chief, said the Moro Islamic Liberation Front was "one of the suspects because of the pattern and methods in which the bombing was carried out."

"We are still investigating," Tor said.

MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu said over radio dxMS that authorities should wait for the result of the investigation before issuing such statements.

Kabalu reiterated that the MILF did not target civilians.

"Some people have been conducting sabotage operations in Mindanao to justify attacks against the MILF," he said without elaborating.

The government last week scrapped the long-stalled peace negotiations with the secessionist group.

Asked whether the MILF had anything to do with the explosion, Dema-ala said: "It's too early to say who did it, but we are investigating."

South Cotabato Gov. Daisy Avance-Fuentes said the bombing was "a tragedy" and the handiwork of terrorists. But she also declined to name any group.

It was the second bomb attack in Koronadal in a month.

A grenade attack in the same part of the city in April, also blamed on the MILF, killed a district chair and his bodyguard. *With a Reuters report*

METRO
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday
E-mail: pr_metro@inquirer.com.ph

SUERTRES 9 4 3
SIX DIGIT (In exact order) 2 8 9 0 1 7

6/42 Luzon 2 13 20 26 33 34
Vis-Min 3 4 5 8 27 35

7 daughters, single mom

Undaunted by husband's death, cook strove to raise her children and give them education

ALING Lourdes shows off a collage of her daughters' achievements and the presidential leadership award given to her youngest daughter, Ma. Juana, for community service. JUAN VILLENA

By Marlet Salazar
Contributor

IT HAS been 13 years since her husband died, but 58-year-old Lourdes Biglaen has single-handedly raised their seven daughters with pride and hard work.

Biglaen does not consider what she went through a misfortune. Instead, she focused on providing her children with the basic needs for them to go through life. For one, she made sure all of them got an education.

Now, two of her kids—one of whom is the youngest who is also blind—have finished college.

Biglaen took all the jobs she could to make ends meet.

Before she became a laundrywoman, Biglaen was an "aguador," selling water contained in cans and buckets by the cart-load.

When her youngest was still in grade school, she would sell food to other mothers to pay for her fare back to their house.

Biglaen would wake up at dawn to fetch water for their neighbors in Paco. What she earned would be her daughters' *baon* (allowance) for the day. To augment her meager earnings, Biglaen collected cement wrappers and sold them to rice mills.

TALES OF THE CITY

One of the families she worked for as a laundrywoman took pity on her after Biglaen's husband died, and recommended her to a cooperative center. She still works there as a cook and is paid on a per day basis.

She commutes from Bulacan to Manila whenever her services are needed.

She treats her co-workers like her own children. Biglaen's surprisingly jolly attitude, despite the hardships she had experienced, is one of the things they love about her.

"They enjoy it when I'm here because there's someone who feeds them," she laughed.

When her children were already old enough to work, they helped her pay for their school expenses.

"I told them that if they want to finish at least high school, they would have to help me," she said. Some became domestic helpers, others assisted her in her laundry jobs. They used their earnings to pay for school. Like most working students, they worked until 1 a.m. and went to class early in the morning.

Each of her children—Carmela, Ma. Cecilia, Ma. Concepcion, Ma Leonora, Mary An, Ma. Dolores, and Ma. Juana—has her own unique talent, and most are gifted with intelligence. Four of them were scholars in high school. One daughter was once a scholar at Assumption College.

But the mother's pride and joy is her blind daughter, the youngest, Ma. Juana, who brought honor to the family.

The daughter graduated in a computer school, and is currently working as a masseuse in one of the malls in Ortigas.

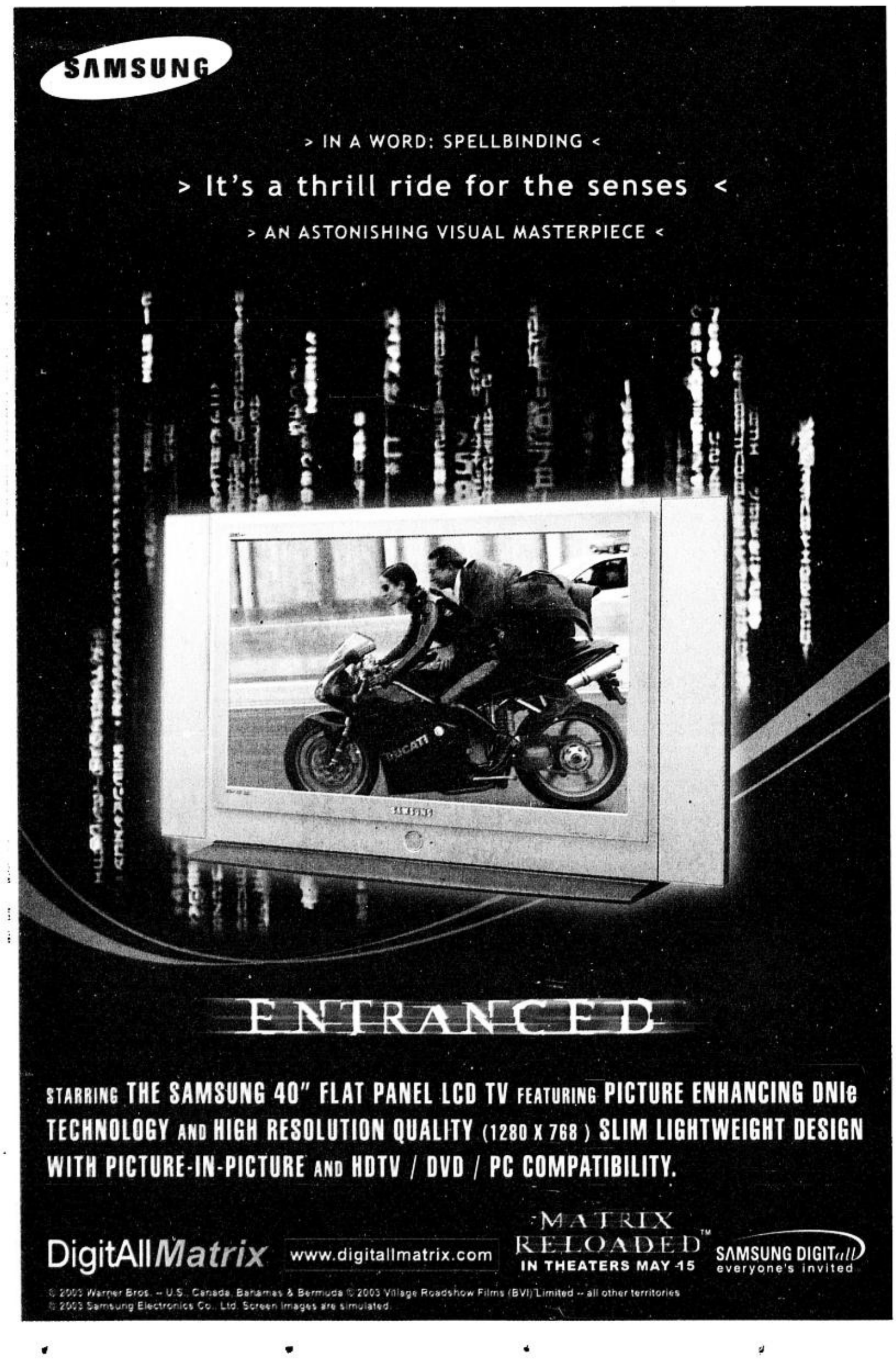
Recently, the daughter was awarded a presidential leadership award for her contribution to their community in San Jose del Monte, Bulacan. The 22-year-old daughter also performed in a concert at the Philamlife Theater just a few weeks ago.

"She's the only one among the other youths in our town who got an award," the proud mother said.

After raising her kids well, Biglaen is now helping them raise all of her 24 grandchildren. In contrast, she doesn't want to depend on her children because, she said, "when your kids already have families, they should concentrate on giving them a better life."

Biglaen sees no sign of stopping from work because she still wants to help her blind daughter. She doesn't want her child to depend on others—the reason she made it a point to send her to the school for the blind, and provided her with everything that she would need.

"Everything I did paid off, and I am happy that my daughters are doing well in their lives now," Biglaen said.



Ulirang Ina Awards winners announced

THIRTY-FOUR model mothers have been chosen recipients of this year's Ulirang Ina Awards.

The awards focused on the importance of education, a gift given by parents in a bid to uplift the lives of their children and to provide them an inheritance no one can take away.

Two special awards were also given this year courtesy of Philamlife Insurance Co. in support of this thrust. These are the Scholar Gold Advantage, a flexible education plan, and the Cancer Life Shield, a health protection plan.

The awards rites will be held at the Hotel Intercontinental Manila in Makati City, with guest speakers Secretary Mona Dumlao-Valisno and Sen. Robert Barbers.

The awardees in the special awards category are: Albina Cacho-Catahay and Miguela Enriquez vda. de Francisco, Ulirang Ina ng Tahanan; Teodora Macatangay-Castro, Leonora Ilagan-Tanyag, and Lydia Abastilla-Reyes, Ulirang Ina ng Angkan; Rossana Ladaga-Llenado, Tanyag na Ulirang Ina; and Gliceria Rustia-Tantoco, Ulirang Ina, Posthumous Award.

Winners in the sectoral awards category are Linda Lugtu-Cruz, Flerida Ortiz Luis Marcelo, Ligaya Lualhati-Javate, Benedicta Balatbat-Martinez, Evangeline Tayag-Mayuga and Dona Julita Yap vda. de Go, for Business and Industry; Carmen Sarreal Ramirez, Ofelia Malate-Mirando Ph.D., Regina Zabala-Barbers, and Purificacion Tomas-Reyes, for Education; Maria Rosa Atencio-Cabie and Conchita Arnan-Sambile, for Media and Journalism; Col. Elvira Cadua-Nunez, for Military; Fortune Aleta-Ledesma, Siu Ti Liu Teng San, Virginia Smith-Barbers, Leticia Paguio-Alejar, Ameurfina Garrido-Santos, Teresita Pernia-Reyes and Mercedes Balana-Posadas, for Socio Civic/Religious; Dra. Cynthia Tuason Guevarra for Medicine and Allied Sciences; Commissioner Andrea Dizon-Domingo, Rizalina Villahermosa-Eisma, and Deputy Commissioner Estelita Caleon-Aguirre, for Government Services; Justice Ma. Cristina Cortez-Estrada and Atty. Clara Dumandan Singh, for Law and Judiciary; and Angeli Pangilinan-Valenciano for Arts and Culture.

STOP SARS ATTACK

SARS DOH OFFICIAL ADVISORY

SUNDAY 11 May 2003

YOU CAN RECOVER FROM SARS -- DOH

A person who is diagnosed with SARS has very high chances of recovery if detected early. If there are 100 patients with SARS, ninety three of them will recover, especially if they do not have diseases such as AIDS, cancer, tuberculosis, diabetes or other diseases that may lower their body's resistance. It is therefore not true that having SARS always ends up with death.

Once a SARS case has recovered, he or she needs to stay at home for another two weeks for observation and monitoring.

Question.

I am a retired teacher residing in Cebu City. I received a package for Mother's Day from my son who has migrated to Toronto, Canada. That was three days ago and up to now I'm too afraid to open it because its contents might contain the killer SARS virus. Please tell me whether or not I should open it?

Answer.

Open your package, Mom! Don't worry about the SARS virus because it cannot thrive on non-living things such as money, clothes, letters, etc. over long periods of time. Even if those articles came from a SARS-affected area or handled by a SARS patient, just think about the days that have passed before the package reached you. As a basic precautionary measure, make sure to wash your hands with soap and water frequently, especially after handling any artifacts. So, don't fret and have a Happy Mother's Day!

Reported SARS cases in the Country (March 17 - May 10, 2003)	
SARS suspects, total admitted	
total discharged	
still confined	
SARS cases	
SARS deaths	
SARS Recovered/Cured	

SARS HOTLINES: 741-7048 / 743-1837 or Type MED<space>SARS then send to 2333 for Globe subscribers or 257 for Smart users or text HOTLINE SARS <space> (Message) then send to 2960 or EMAIL: sars@doh.gov.ph

More drug busts, less jail space

By TJ Burgonio

THE GOOD news is that the new anti-drug law seems to be effective because more and more people have been hauled to jail for using or hawking narcotics.

The bad news is that this has jammed the already congested jails.

Local Government Secretary Joey Lina reported that the number of inmates in the country's city and municipal jails increased by at least 12 percent ever since the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act was implemented in July last year.

Citing a study by his department, he said that the number of inmates has grown from 40,069 in July last year to 45,227 in March this year, and that 24 percent of these" are facing drug-related cases.

Lina noted a similar trend in Metro Manila jails. The number of inmates increased from 13,721 from last July to 16,150 in March, and that 24 percent of these are charged for violation of the anti-drug law.

The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act was passed in June last year.

Lina, however, admitted that the increase in the number of inmates has further clogged up the congested 1,251 city and municipal jails under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology.

"The campaign is producing results, but it has its problems," he said, adding that jail authorities should expect more inmates in the coming months as the PDEA and the police step up their drug-bust operations.

To cope with the growing number of inmates, Lina said he would request a P500-million budget from the Department of Budget and Management to expand jail facilities.

But apart from the expansion, Lina stressed the need for local courts to speed up the resolution of drug cases and for government to appoint more prosecutors.

Suspects in TMG shooting linked to bank robs

By Leila Salaverria

THE TWO members of the Traffic Management Group who were wounded in Friday's shooting incident may have stumbled on the group of robbers responsible for a series of bank heists in Metro Manila.

Investigators said the suspects appeared to be seasoned criminals since they were using a high-end vehicle that had, in all probability, been stolen. Their possession of high-powered firearms also bolstered the police's theory.

Police said the suspects behind the spate of robberies in Metro Manila this year were equipped in the same manner—M-14 rifles and armalites, with luxury cars as getaway vehicles.

Considering the kind of weapons the suspects had, SPO4 Leonardo Timtiman said that the wounded TMG men's decision not to fire back on the suspects was a smart move on the their part.

"The suspects might have finished the [TMG operatives] off," he said.

PO3 Edgardo Porcinculla was taken to the Makati Medical Center where doctors extracted a bullet from his right buttock. Police said they expect Porcinculla to be released from the hospital soon.

PO1 Allan Eneria was hit in the right arm and left side. He was treated at the Victor Potenciano Medical Center (Polymedic).

On Friday, around six men on board a blue Mitsubishi Adventure (WMU-502) shot and wounded the two TMG men, who were on patrol when they tried to stop the vehicle with the bogus license plate. But instead of stopping, the armed men shot at the police officers, who did not fire back.

The suspects later abandoned their vehicle on Kalayaan road in Makati and transferred to a white L-300 van.

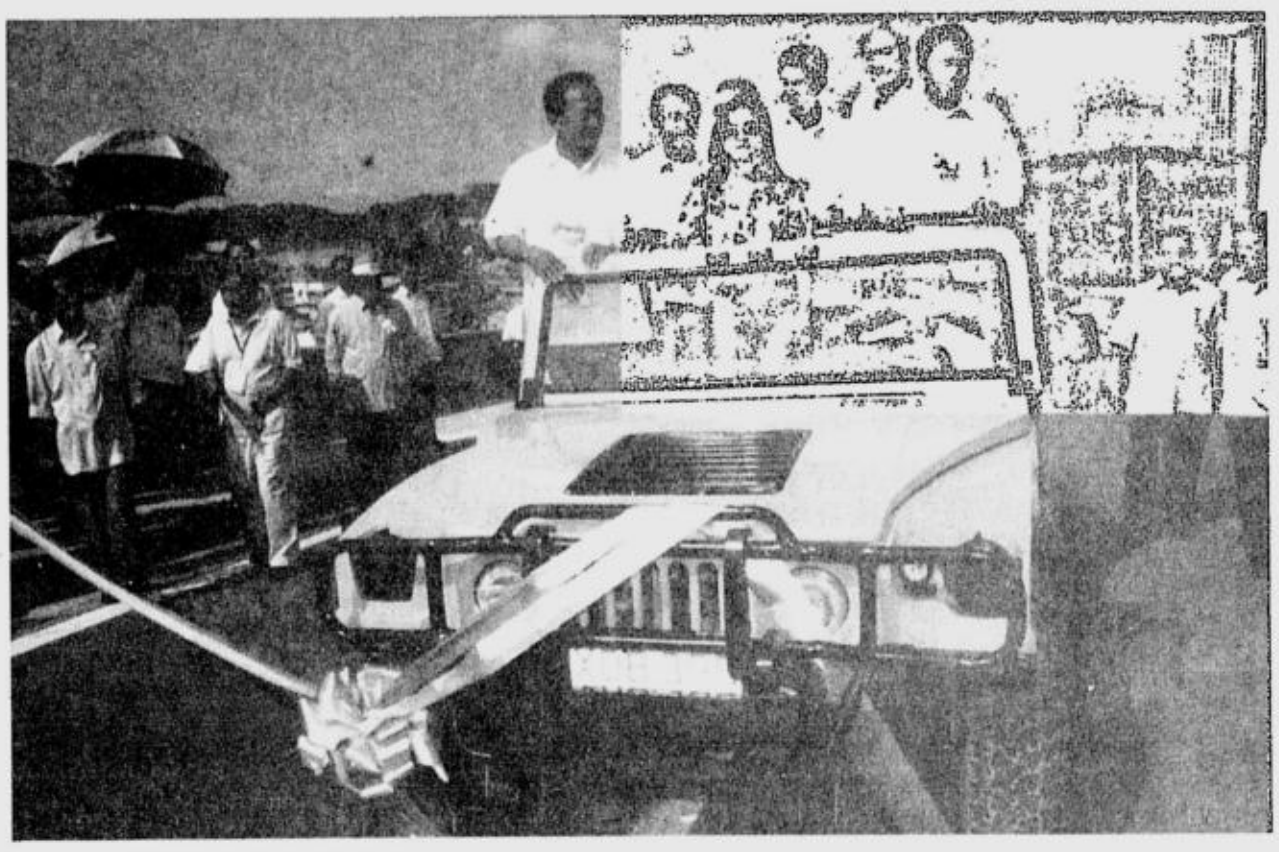
Probers said the L-300 may have been driving beside the Mitsubishi Adventure and sped away when police flagged down the latter, only to rendezvous with their companions later.

Police later found ammunition for high-powered guns inside the abandoned vehicle.

Witnesses also saw the suspects brandishing short and long firearms as they escaped.

Earlier this year, banks in Parañaque, Mandaluyong, Quezon City and Makati were robbed by suspects on board high-end vehicles like a Ford Expedition, a Toyota Revo, a Hyundai Starex, a Nissan Vanette and a Honda Civic.

Some of the suspects were described by witnesses as being armed to the teeth, "like Rambo." *With a report from Jamie Alarcon*



SAMPAGUITA RAMP OPENS
PUBLIC Works Undersecretary Mario Bonoan (far left) together with Bases Conversion Authority Chair Padernal, Taguig Councilor Myla Valencia, Taguig Mayor Siegred Tinga, BCDA President Mr. Rufo Colayco and MMDA Chair Bayani Fernando drive through the newly inaugurated Sampaguita east ramp on C-5 Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila.

MMDA gets tough on bus operators

By Leila Salaverria

METRO Manila Development Authority Traffic Operations Center Director Angelito Vergel de Dios has threatened bus owners that their buses would be impounded if they would not settle the traffic fines.

Vergel de Dios said that with the help of camera-toting traffic enforcers, they could now identify the buses that have figured in violations.

Along with the summons sent to bus owners are traffic violation tickets and pictures of the buses committing traffic violations, he said.

Figures from the MMDA show that over a two-week period, 212 pictures of erring buses were taken.

Of the 212 summons sent to bus operators, only 37, or 17.5%, have been paid as of May 6.

Among the companies who have paid for their buses' violations are Dela Rosa, which paid for six violations, Pascual liner, which paid for five violations, and the Vil 5000, Del Carmen and Ismael Bus Line, which paid for four violations each.

"I plan to impound the buses to force bus operators to pay the fines," he said. "They should not ignore our summons."

The traffic director added that the MMDA has the best evidence against the erring buses—photographs of them committing a traffic violation. Thus, he said, bus operators will hardly be able to contest the summons.

The deployment of traffic enforcers armed with digital cameras is part of the MMDA's "no contact traffic apprehension policy."

Under the policy, traffic enforcers are prevented from coming into physical contact with apprehended motorists because with minimal interaction between the two, extortion, bribery or mulcting activities are less likely to happen.

Widow of slain Japanese backtracks, agrees to paraffin test

By Leila Salaverria

CARMELITA Murakami, the 52-year-old widow of slain Japanese trader Hiromasa Murakami, yesterday told police that she wants to take a paraffin test after all.

But investigators said her offer was useless because the 72-hour period for determining whether or not a person has powder burns from firing a gun has lapsed.

Carmelita and her sons from her previous marriage had earlier refused to take a paraffin test. The widow claimed that she had been suffering from diabetes and hypertension, and the test might affect her health.

An investigator, who refused to be named, said that the Parañaque police will instead question Carmelita after her husband's burial as she earlier requested.

At the same time, police yesterday ruled out robbery, a love triangle or a business dispute as the motive for Murakami's slay.

Probers said nothing was taken from Murakami's house in Better Living Subdivision, nobody believed that either of the Murakami couple were having extramarital affairs, and the victim had no business enemies.

The police will now check whether or not Murakami has a large insurance policy, or whether or not there had been someone with intense hatred against him. The investigator added that it was possible Murakami had been killed by a hired killer.

Investigators also learned that the two persons who killed the Japanese businessman not only shot but stabbed the victim as well. One could have done the shooting while the other did the stabbing.

Murakami had a gaping stab wound on one of his armpits.

An investigator added that Murakami struggled against his killers, which is the reason police are baffled as to why Carmelita failed to wake up when the suspects struck. Even the couple's maid, who slept in another room, allegedly heard the shots.

METROBRIEFS

Killing in Binondo

RODOLFO Cabanayan, 20, was shot to death in his own house in Binondo, Manila before dawn yesterday. Police said that before the shooting, Cabanayan had exchanged blows with his long-time enemy, Nanding Cajipe, in their neighborhood. But their neighbors managed to stop the fight, said SPO2 Diomedes Labarda. But Cajipe reportedly was bent on settling the score with Cabanayan once and for all. At 3 a.m., Cajipe shot Cabanayan in the head, killing him on the spot, police said. Cajipe is now at large. *Jerome Aning*

Murder in Roxas district

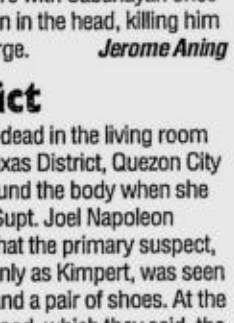
CHINESE-FILIPINO William Go was found dead in the living room of his house on Scout Chuatoco Street, Roxas District, Quezon City at about 8 a.m. yesterday. His wife Nora found the body when she came home from the market, police said. Supt. Joel Napoleon Coronel of the Central Police District said that the primary suspect, the couple's 19-year-old helper identified only as Kimpert, was seen rushing out of the house, clutching a bag and a pair of shoes. At the crime scene, Police recovered a piece of wood, which they said, the suspect used to hit the victim in the head. *Anne Luisa Villarico*

Shooting in Quezon City

SECURITY guard Ronilo Quirante on Friday killed suspected snatcher Jobert Lopez with a single shot from his service revolver in Quezon City. PO2 Joseph Dino of the Central Police District said Lopez, 25, of Commonwealth Ave., grabbed the bag of a Lou Michelle Narciso, while she was waiting for a ride at the Doña Carmen Subdivision at around 10:15 p.m. When Narciso cried for help, Quirante responded and fired several warning shots in the air. But Lopez continued running, so Quirante shot the suspect in the back. That one shot killed Lopez, PO2 Dino said. Quirante, 27, is now in police custody. *Anne Luisa Villarico*

Cleanup in Manila

MANILA Mayor Lito Atienza yesterday warned owners of establishments in the city that they would face closure and revocation of their permits to operate if they fail to keep the fronts of their places clean. The mayor led a city-wide clean up drive Thursday. He also inspected business firms on Blumentritt in Sta. Cruz to see if they are complying with the city's sanitation standards. The mayor ordered Rafael Borromeo, head of the department of public services, to serve formal notices to erring firms. *Jerome Aning*



Pasinaya in Bel-Air

RESIDENTS of Bel-Air village in Makati City will be celebrating their annual "Pasinaya" on May 23, 24, and 25. The celebration will reel off with the opening of a bazaar and musical and dance contests for household staff. Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay and Bel-Air barangay captain Constancia Lichauco, along with village elders and officers of the Bel-Air Village Association, will lead the ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 24 at the village covered court. Officiating at the ceremony will be Msgr. Emmanuel Sunga. There will be a parade of bands, raffles of prizes, foodfests, an acrobatic show, musical performances, bingo games, a children's party, and "Santacruzan."

Woman promising gold mines arrested

By Jerome Aning

NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation agents arrested on Friday an elderly woman who was said to have duped dozens of Davao families into investing close to P1 billion in a bogus gold mine over the past eight years.

Suspect Marilou Estrada was arrested by members of the NBI's National Capital Region Office in a house on Aurora (formerly Tramo) Boulevard in Pasay City. A Davao court has issued a warrant of arrest against Estrada for syndicated estafa.

Investigation showed that the suspect swindled at least 63 families in Davao, urging them to "invest" in a gold mine somewhere in the vicinity of the controversial Mt. Diwalwal.

"She would present them with letters supposedly from interested foreign investors," the NBI report said. "That prompted many of the victims to invest."

The reports also said that Estrada promised to give back "massive dividends" once the gold mine was fully developed.

Many of Estrada's alleged victims were plantation workers in Davao and retired military officers who poured their life savings into the scheme.

The "investment" went on for almost eight years until several of the victims became suspicious if there ever was a gold mine in the first place.

They demanded that an accounting of their investments be made and they be given their dividends.

But the suspect went into hiding, prompting the victims to report the matter to the NBI.

The NBI is seeking other victims so they could file charges against the suspect, who is said to be running a Manila-based employment agency.

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Sony Ericsson P800	30,300	28,000	26,600	21,200	15,500	8,500	FREE

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Nokia 6100 (w/digicam/headset)	21,800	19,300	18,000	12,600	7,500	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6800	17,500	15,000	13,700	8,300	2,800	FREE	FREE
Nokia 7250	19,600	17,200	15,800	10,400	4,800	FREE	FREE
Sony Ericsson P800	31,300	29,000	27,600	22,200	16,500	9,000	1,000

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SMART Amazing Phone	19,500	17,700	16,300	8,000	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6610	14,700	12,700	9,500	5,000	FREE	FREE	FREE
Sony Ericsson T310 (w/digicam)	8,300	6,300	5,000	3,500	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6100	19,100	17,200	13,800	9,000	4,000	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6610 (w/digicam/headset)	18,000	15,900	12,500	8,000	3,000	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6100 (w/digicam/headset)	22,300	20,300	18,500	13,800	8,800	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6800	18,000	16,000	14,700	9,300	3,800	FREE	FREE
Nokia 7250	20,100	18,200	16,800	11,400	5,800	FREE	FREE
Sony Ericsson P800	31,800	30,000	28,600	23,200	17,500	10,000	3,500

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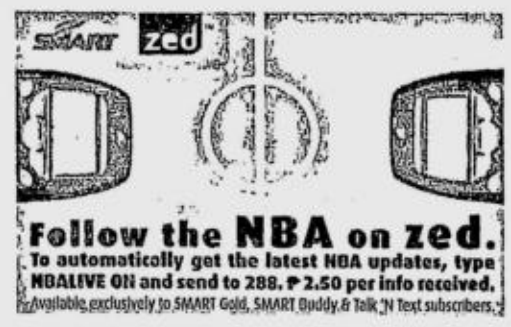
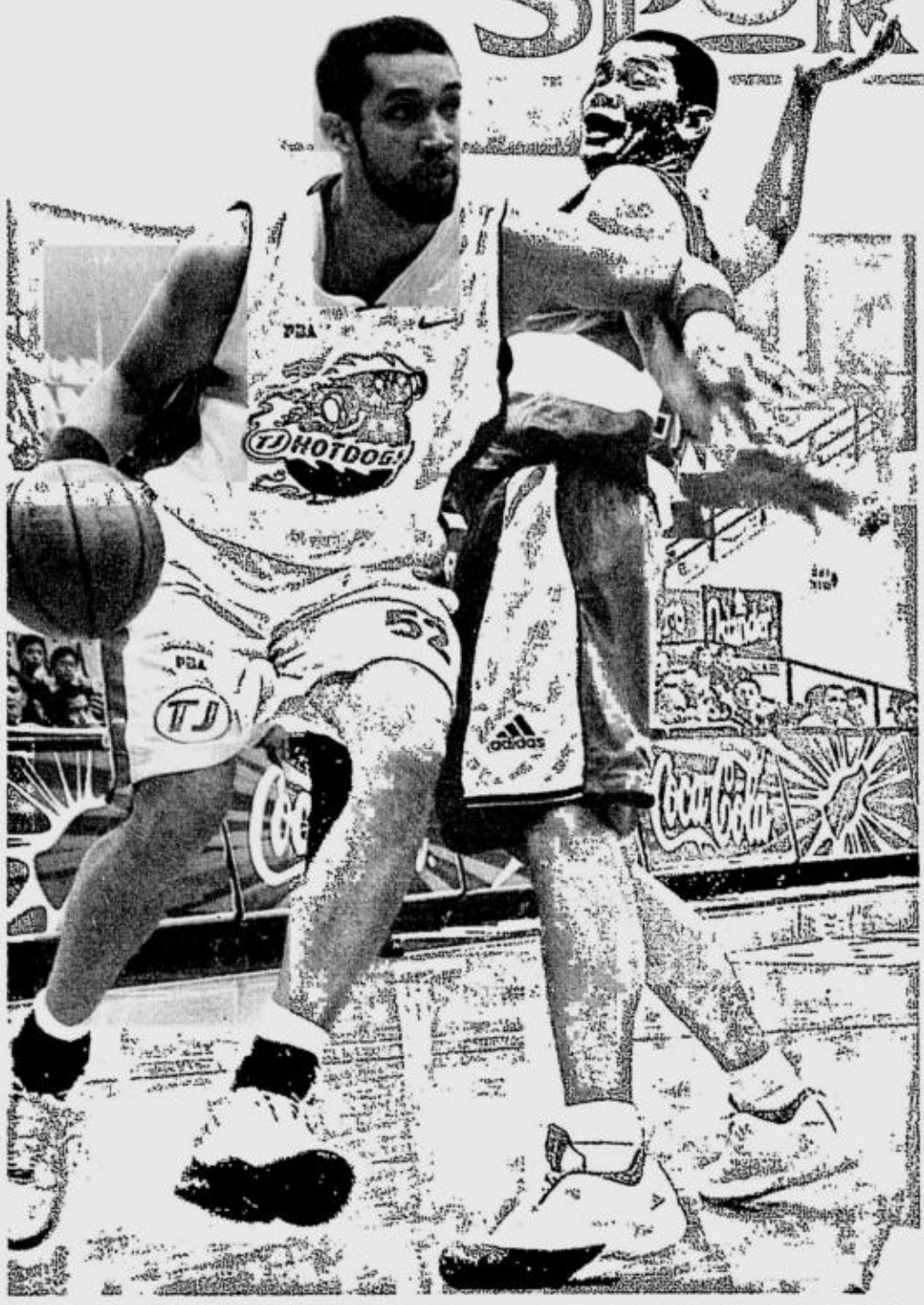




PUREFOODS' Andy Seigle (left) tries to dribble past Coca Cola's Freddie Abuda during their PBA game Friday night. Coca Cola won, 97-87. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

ALL-OUT FIGHT

PBA to banish drug offenders

By Marc Anthony Reyes

THE "IN" thing to ask among pundits in the Philippine Basketball Association used to be: "Who's the new fake Fil-American?"

Not anymore. A new trendy question has since overtaken it: "Who's the latest drug offender?"

Cruel as the new league reality is, Commissioner Noli Eala has no choice but to take the bull by the horns.

In his latest–and harshest–measure to rid the PBA of the drug menace, Eala yesterday announced that any employee found to have used prohibited drugs would be summarily banished from the league.

That is a far greater punishment compared to that imposed on at least three professional cagers–Jimwell Torion, Alex Crisano and Norman Gonzalez–who have been suspended indefinitely after testing positive for banned drugs.

"It is a cause for disciplinary action from preventive suspension to dismissal, subject, of course, to evaluation," Eala explained.

He has already started the mandatory drug testing on the close to 100 employees, including league officials, referees, coaches, table officials and ushers.

The testing is done on top of the per-team drug testing conducted on a surprise basis during team practices.

"We are doing something about this problem which is a reality in our society and is not inherent in the PBA," said Eala. "This is our way of proving that we take care of our players, we take care of our league."

The league has the support of the Philippine Olympic Committee, which joined its anti-drug drive as part of the global campaign against banned substance.

Before Torion, Gonzalez and Crisano were canned, TnT's Asi Taulava and San Miguel's Dorian Peña–had tested positive for marijuana

PBA/ A26

Ginebra, Shell try to stay alive

GAMES TODAY *(Araneta Coliseum)*
4 p.m.—Talk N' Text vs. Ginebra
6:30 p.m.—Shell vs. SLR

By Marc Anthony Reyes

WITH the path going to the next round getting narrower by the day, Barangay Ginebra and Shell will be looking for ways to stay on track against separate rivals today in the PBA Samsung All Filipino Cup at the Philsports.

Both with only four games to show this late in the elimination, the Kings and the Turbochargers are hard-pressed to win against Talk N' Text and Sta. Lucia Realty, respectively.

Fortunately, Ginebra and Shell can't be booted out jointly because they both belong to Group B, which will leave only one team behind in the quarterfinal.

At any rate, the Turbochargers got a slim edge in the standing sustaining only 10 defeats as against the Kings' 11 -the last four

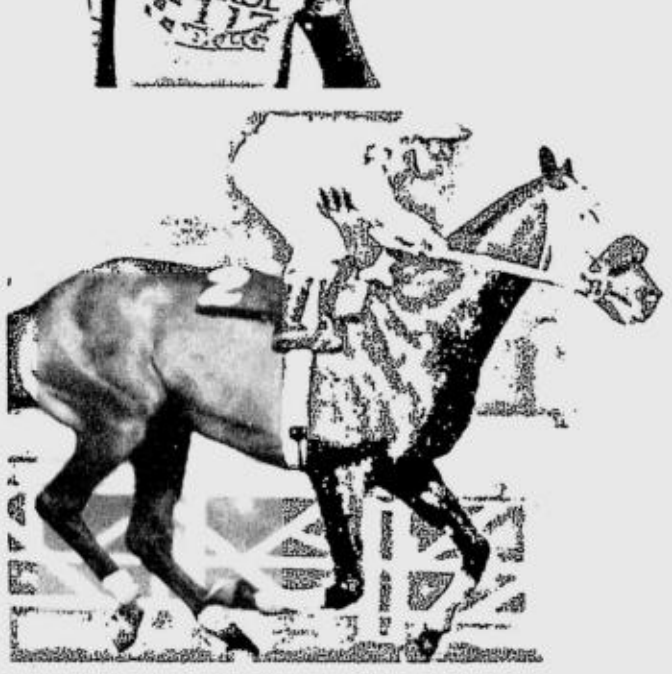
GINEBRA/ A26

WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Jack Nicholson plays villain on the floor /A29

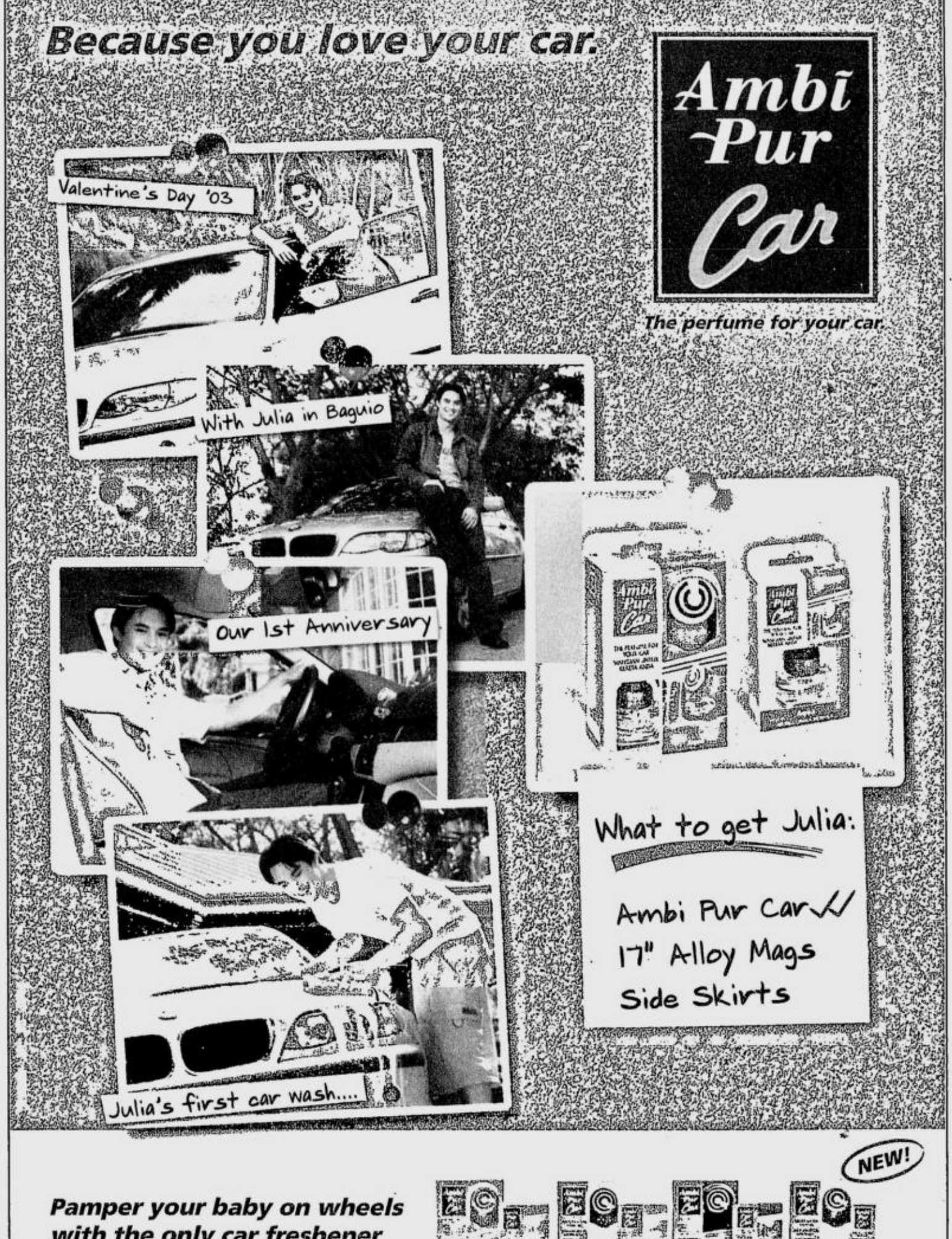
■ Kobe, Shaq bring Lakers back to life /A29

■ Quirimit leaves nothing to chance /A26



■ Wind Blown seeks 'three-peat' /A30

■ Mama Elma /A32



Quirimit leaves nothing to chance

Tanduay skipper 3rd in penultimate lap

By June Navarro

MALOLOS, BULACAN—Leaving nothing to chance, virtual champion Arnel Quirimit of Tanduay stretched his overall lead to more than five minutes by placing third in the penultimate lap of the Tour Pilipinas 2003 bikathon won by Bernard Luzon yesterday.

As disaster struck his chief challenger Rhyan Tanguilig, the 27-year-old Quirimit, skipper of Tanduay Distillers, stormed away beyond recall in the company of his buddies from the national team, in the process triggering a revamp of the riders directly behind him.

Merculio Ramos, who held the yellow jersey of leadership for six days, moved up to second overall, five minutes and 20 seconds behind Quirimit, and Warren Davadilla advanced to third over Tanguilig, who said the national riders had conspired to pull him down in the standings.

Indeed, the top 10 slots are now occupied by RP team mainstays except for Tanguilig, Luzon (seventh) and Felix Celeste (10th).

The other nationals in the Magic 10 are Ronald Gorrantes (fifth), Enrique Domingo (sixth), Lloyd Reynante (eighth) and Alfie Catalan (ninth).

Except for a severe mishap, the leading riders are expected to keep their positions when the Tour ends its 15-stage, 16-lap schedule today with the 150-km Luneta criterium in Manila.

Although it will be nothing more than a lap of honor, Quirimit refused to acknowledge the impending win, worth P200,000, until the final lap is over.

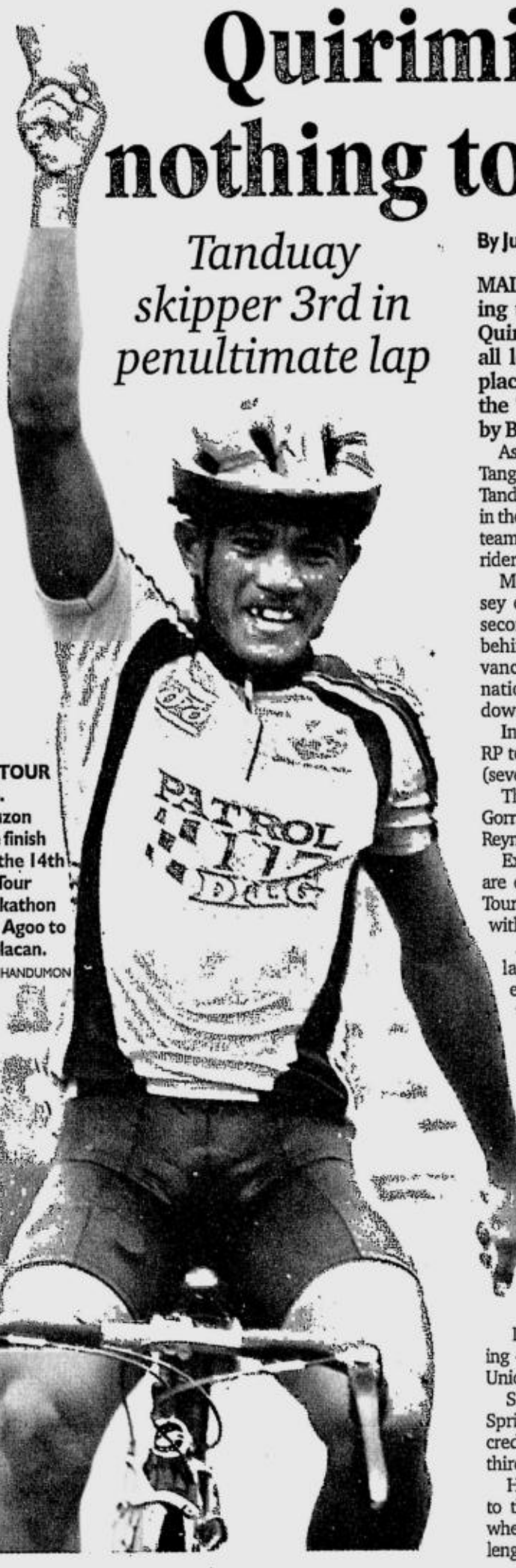
"The good thing is I'll just have to defend the overall lead without any pressure at all," said Quirimit, an airman second class from Pozzorubio, Pangasinan, in Tagalog.

A Tour regular since 1996, Quirimit is set to join a long list of champion riders from Pangasinan in topping this revival of the bikathon presented by Air 21 and sponsored by Accel, Longines, BPI-MS, Lipovitan, Philtranco, Look-Vittoria and Selle Italia.

Luzon nipped unheralded Sherwin Diamsay to secure his second lap win, clocking 4:43:02 for the 206-km ride from Agoo, La Union.

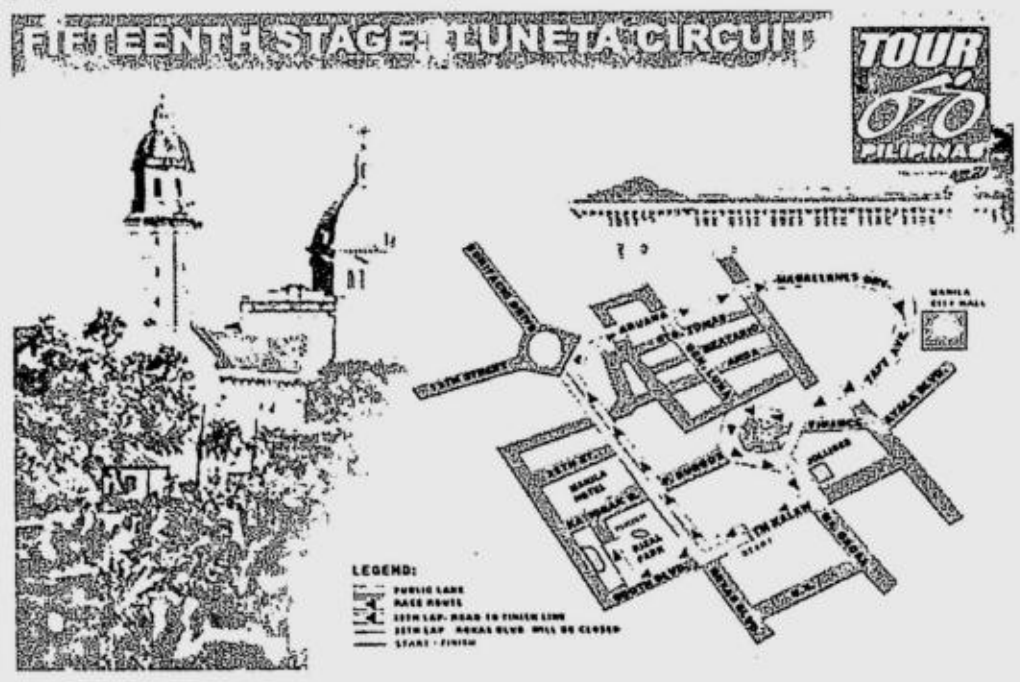
Showing no respect for Domingo's status as Sprint king, Quirimit, with three lap wins to his credit, nosed out his RP teammate to salvage third, 5.87 seconds behind Luzon and Diamsay.

Hampered by mechanical problems 70 kms into the race, Tanguilig had to change his front wheel, allowing Quirimit to break away unchallenged.



14TH LAP TOUR PILIPINAS. Bernard Luzon crosses the finish line to win the 14th Lap of the Tour Pilipinas Bikathon 2003, from Agoo to Malolos Bulacan. VAL HANDUMON

LEAD pack pedals in barangay San Roque, Mexico, Pampanga on the 14th Lap of the Tour pilipinas 2003. Bernard Luzon won the Lap. PDI PHOTO/VAL HANDUMON



Overall Standings

RANK	RIDER		TEAM	TIME
1	ARNEL	QUIRIMIT	TAN	51h56'16.952
2	MERCULIO	RAMOS	SAM	00h05'20.861
3	WARREN	DAVADILLA	INT	00h05'38.692
4	RHYAN	TANGUILIG	PAG	00h10'13.232
5	RONALD	GORRANTES	ECO	00h13'36.052
6	ENRIQUE	DOMINGO	POS	00h14'04.303
7	BERNARD	LUZON	PAT	00h18'01.980
8	LLOYD	REYNANTE	PAG	00h18'10.012
9	ALFIE	CATALAN	BOW	00h32'32.101
10	FELIX	CELESTE	VAT	00h34'55.945
11	PLACIDO	VALDEZ	DRU	00h35'31.682
12	ALBERT	PRIMERO	PLD	00h39'04.783
13	ARNOLD	MARCELO	POS	00h40'10.575
14	RENATO	DOLOSA	GIL	00h41'05.192
15	JOSEPH	MILLANES	TAN	00h45'15.823
16	SANTI	BARNACHEA	BOW	00h48'52.883
17	FREDERICK	FELICIANO	DRU	00h49'49.283
18	DANNY	GANIGAN	SAM	00h53'30.407
19	SHERWIN	DIAMSAY	VAT	01h06'20.033
20	LITO	ATILANO	GIL	01h14'50.311
21	CARLO	JAZUL	ECO	01h18'52.223
22	FERNANDO	ALAGANO	INT	01h19'23.661
23	JOEL	CALDERON	VAT	01h21'53.764
24	REYNALDO	NAVARRO	POS	01h29'36.462
25	PATERNO	CURTAN	ECO	01h31'37.923
26	ERICSON	OBOSA	TAN	01h42'52.031
27	CARLO	GUIEB	ECO	01h49'26.814
28	REINHARD	GORANTES	PAT	01h50'17.845
29	NILO	ESTAYO	INT	01h56'40.101
30	MANUEL	MENDOZA	SAM	02h02'19.469
31	EUSEBIO	QUIÑONES	PAT	02h05'46.032
32	PAULO	MANAPOL	INT	02h14'38.881
33	ARTHURS	BUCAY	INT	02h20'59.043
34	GERRY	AMAR	PAT	02h25'41.808
35	ERIC	TOLENTINO	TAN	02h30'35.991
36	WILFREDO	CALOSA	POS	02h31'29.703
37	JOEL	GUILLEN	PAG	02h45'45.841
38	AVELINO	BAYUGA	VAT	02h47'40.883
39	MICHAEL	REYES	INT	02h50'03.982
40	DIONISIO	POSILERO	PAT	02h50'30.334
41	OSCAR	FRONDA	PLD	03h07'01.763
42	ROLANDO	PAGNANAWON	BOW	03h09'40.296
43	ARNEL	ESPINO	PAG	03h14'11.417
44	RODELIO	VALDEZ	SAM	03h18'36.775
45	NOLI	DEL ROSARIO	PLD	03h21'47.055
46	RYAN	MENDOZA	PAT	03h24'09.521
47	JAY	TOLENTINO	PAG	03h29'13.692
48	MICHAEL	GONOWON	BOW	03h30'43.983
49	VIRGILIO	MUENA	PLD	03h34'39.900
50	BENITO	LOPEZ	VAT	03h41'01.812
51	OSCAR	RENDOLE	DRU	03h42'07.001
52	MICHAEL	PRIMERO	GIL	03h42'42.451
53	JESSIE	BACUDO	PLD	03h48'26.521
54	JUNE	VILLANUEVA	PAG	03h50'53.123
55	GARRY	APOLINAR	SAM	03h51'04.973
56	RUEL	CASALJAY	GIL	03h54'00.512
57	RAZON	GALDONEZ	INT	03h55'40.281
58	DOMINADOR	TACU-TACU	SAM	03h56'22.052
59	ALFREDO	MAPA	BOW	03h57'43.434
60	JOFFREY	TALAVER	BOW	04h05'35.283
61	ROBERT	VILLAVER	VAT	04h06'29.273
62	RENE	ESTEBAN	POS	04h15'47.682
63	GERARD	ASIADO	POS	04h27'40.774
64	DOMINADOR	JACOB	TAN	04h33'09.623
65	OSCAR	ESPIRITU	TAN	04h34'44.564
66	DIONISIO	MENDOZA	BOW	04h39'28.574

14TH LAP RESULTS

1	BERNARD	LUZON	PAT	04h43'01.880
2	SHERWIN	DIAMSAY	VAT	same
3	ARNEL	QUIRIMIT	TAN	05.87 behind
4	ENRIQUE	DOMINGO	POS	14.93 behind
5	ALFIE	CATALAN	BOW	same
6	WARREN	DAVADILLA	INT	same
7	MERCULIO	RAMOS	SAM	same
8	ARNOLD	MARCELO	POS	same
9	RONALD	GORRANTES	ECO	same
10	EUSEBIO	QUIÑONES	PAT	same
11	PLACIDO	VALDEZ	DRU	same
12	ALBERT	PRIMERO	PLD	8'36.05 behind
13	JOFFREY	TALAVER	BOW	same
14	RHYAN	TANGUILIG	PAG	same
15	NOLI	DEL ROSARIO	PLD	same
16	FELIX	CELESTE	VAT	same
17	REYNALDO	NAVARRO	POS	same
18	NILO	ESTAYO	INT	same
19	MANUEL	MENDOZA	SAM	same
20	DESI	HARDIN	GIL	same

OVERALL TEAM STANDINGS

PL	TEAM	TIMED	DEFICIT
1	INTEL	205h03'31.4	
2	POSTMEN	205h20'06.9	00h16'35.52
3	SAMSUNG	205h37'53.4	00h34'21.99
4	TANDUAY RHUM RIDERS	205h45'51.2	00h42'19.86
5	ECO SAVERS	206h07'23.2	01h03'51.84
6	VAT RIDERS	206h35'55.5	01h32'24.10
7	PATROL 117	206h41'49.8	01h38'18.47
8	PAGCORSPORTS	207h17'49.4	02h14'18.03
9	BOWLING GOLD	207h41'42.6	02h38'11.18
10	GILBEYS ISLAND PUNCH	208h37'46.3	03h34'14.95
11	DRUG BUSTERS	208h45'52.6	03h42'21.25
12	PLDT-NDD	210h18'00.9	05h14'29.51

Windfall awaits champion as Tour winds up today

By June Navarro

MALOLOS, BULACAN—The rider heralded in advance to clinch Tour Pilipinas 2003 crown also happens to be the bikathon's biggest money earner.

Arnel Quirimit, 27, who is expected to formalize his kingship at the Rizal Park this afternoon, has already pocketed total earnings of P58,500 after 14 grueling days in the 15-stage cycling adventure.

That's aside from the individual champion's purse of P200,000 which Quirimit, pride of Pozzorubio, Pangasinan, is bound to pocket after the 150-kilometer Luneta Criterium today.

"The moment I get hold of it, I will save the money in the bank. It's better to save for the future than spend it carelessly," said Quirimit in Tagalog.

Tanduay, Quirimit's team, is also in the running for team honors as the Lucio Tan-owned squad closes in on either third or fourth overall depending on the team's final finish.

Reports have it that Tanduay had offered a considerable amount to any of its riders who won a lap in the Tour.

Quirimit has captured three stages and, together with his teammates, pushed Tanduay to victory during the Team Time Trial event in the second stage from Daraga to Naga City.

Quirimit finished third and fifth in a lap twice, aside from controlling the overall lead six times.

A lap victory was worth P10,000, a third-place finish P3,000, fifth placers got P1,000 while overall leaders receive P3,000 after every stage.

Placido Valdez of the DrugBusters stood at second with a total earnings of P44,000 after winning the King of the Mountain award worth P30,000. Valdez, 11th overall, won the San Fernando-Baguio City killer lap Thursday, finished fourth once and ended up fifth in a stage twice.

Running third is Bernard Luzon, who has lined his pockets with P35,000 after capturing two laps and a handful of runner-up awards.

Ronald Gorrantes (P32,000), Merculio Ramos (P20,000) and Warren Davadilla (P20,000) were the other top earners with Enrique Domingo expected to jack up his winnings to P44,000 should he seize the Sprint King award worth P30,000 today.

Ginebra, Shell try to stay alive

From page A25

coming in succession.

"At the start of the conference I said that this team, even without a marquee center, will have a fighting chance," said Shell coach Perry Ronquillo. "We just got to be convinced of ourselves that we can make it."

Strangely, the statement also rings true to the Kings' situation after they played minus their celebrated never-say-die spirit to surrender to Coca Cola, San Miguel, FedEx and Talk N' Text one after another.

The sad thing is, in contrast to Shell's plight, Ginebra has a surplus of big-name centers like Jun Limpot, Eric Menk and Romel Adducul.

What's worse is that the Phone Pals could very well match the Kings' slotmen in the 4 p.m. encounter in the presence of a dominant Asi Taulava.

Meanwhile, Red Bull banked on Lordy Tugade's explosion in the homestretch to down Alaska Milk, 92-82, in an out-of-town game in Tagbilaran City, Bohol. Red Bull climbed to 12-4 while pulling down Alaska to 8-8.

STANDINGS	W	L
Group A	W	L
SMB	8	6
FedEx	8	6
Alaska	8	7
SLR	8	7
Purefoods	5	10
Group B		
Red Bull	11	4
TnT	9	6
Coke	8	6
Shell	4	10
Ginebra	4	11

PBA to banish drug offenders

From page A25

and were made to serve two-game suspensions.

But after the PBA had to announce in a ten-day span that three of its cagers tested positive for shabu and Ecstacy, Eala decided to go real hard on drug offenders.

So, who's next on the list?

Eala wishes that nothing follows.

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AIR 21 A. Catalan 32:32 L. Reynante 18:10 B. Luzon 18:01 E. Domingo 14:04 R. Gorrantes 13:36 R. Tanguilig 10:13 W. Davadilla 5:38 M. Ramos 5:20 behind A.Quirimit 51h 56:16 TOUR 03 PILIPINAS
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State stuff

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

NOW that the Senate hearings on Fil-Ams playing in the PBA are over, we can sit back, relax and enjoy the basketball games in all their splendor and thrill. Look, whether we like it or not, it's mostly the Fil-Ams who have been lording it in the ongoing conference.

But are the Fil-Ams called to the hearings also ready to relax just like the rest of us?

I believe so.

For one, the hearings were nothing but that—hearings. Meaning, they were done in aid of legislation. That if and when Sen. Robert Barbers and his fellow senators were to draft a bill to augment existing laws on citizenship, they could use the hearings as their guide. That was all there is to it.

For another, the hearings did not investigate the Fil-Ams suspected of presenting alleged fake papers to gain Filipino citizenship. That was farthest from the truth. In the first place, that job belongs to the courts of law. And the fake papers—if they ever existed at all—should not have passed the scrutiny of such respected government agencies like the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation, Department of Foreign Affairs and Department of Justice, all of which churned out documents declaring the Fil-Ams full-fledged Filipinos.

> So much hurt has been done to Fil-Ams, but did they bring it upon themselves? I believe not

If at all, the worst scenario would be for the Barbers Committee to recommend prosecution if, in its belief, it found probable cause for its filing against a suspected fake Fil-Am. But again, the job of filing the case belongs not to Barbers et. al. It belongs to an interested entity or citizen, like Jojo Lastimosa maybe, who shall need the Office of the Solicitor General because a case as sensitive as citizenship is a state matter.

The PBA cannot even instigate such prosecution lest it be accused of killing its own kind. Non sequitur.

So you see, it is not as easy as reciting A-B-C, or counting 1-2-3 as the unlearned would want us to believe. You just don't grab back that easily a citizenship already granted. It is not like a balloon handed to a toddler on a whim, only to be retaken—also on a whim—and given to another wailing kid to satiate his desire for the toy.

Hey, a citizenship is no kid stuff. It is not just an adult stuff, either. It is state stuff and therefore an extremely serious matter.

Let us take the case of Asi Taulava, easily the most celebrated Fil-Am now playing in the PBA. A Fil-Am, of course, is now almost the generic term for a Filipino with foreign blood in his veins, whether that Filipino is half American or half Italian or half Tongan like Taulava.

Called "The Rock" for his solid physique and muscle-bound frame, the 6-foot-9 Taulava has been in the eye of the storm not too long ago for allegedly not having the right papers. Upon appeal, he was granted citizenship.

Still, many had cast aspersions on his person.

Maybe because he's so good a player, in the process making some people envious of his talent? Is not envy one of the seven deadly sins as the Good Book says? Why, wasn't Taulava the country's No. 1 center in the recent Asian Games in Busan, South Korea? Show me a star, a big shot, who is not envied by ambitious, greed-driven animals in this world of avarice and gluttony.

For Taulava the issue revolves around his alleged not-so-solid roots in Northern Samar, where his mother, who married a Tongan, was said to have come from. The brother of the incumbent Samar governor was even recently mentioned as having influenced a town registrar "to expedite" the release of documents pertaining to Taulava's mother. Even that was nó crime; the act of expediting genuine papers may be considered unethical but certainly that is not a crime.

But come to think of it, fellas, do we honestly believe Taulava faked his mother's papers? Or, did he doctor the documents with the aid of unscrupulous lawyer/s?

It is not for us to answer that. Only Taulava can.

But to be sure, this is not to defend Taulava or any other Fil-Am for that matter. This is an attempt to clear the air. So much hurt has been done to Fil-Ams, but did they bring it upon themselves?

I believe not.

We only have ourselves to blame if Taulava & Co. are sulking, licking wounds that are not supposed to be there in the first place—wounds we ourselves had inflicted, wittingly or unwittingly. Sometimes, we judge so easily as if we are sin-free ourselves.

I worked with Taulava at close range in Busan during my coverage of the last Asian Games. I found him to be sensitive, seemingly grief stricken-prone even if what he might have hurt was just a fly.

Sometimes, you need to be near someone to know that someone better.

Young champ has big dream

GORRES works on the heavy bag with his sights set on a world championship.

By Salven L. Lagumbay

THEY call the new Philippine flyweight boxing champ Z Gorres. But he could also be dubbed The Dream.

The 22-year-old Mandaue City-bred mitt-slinger carries a full load in his arsenal.

He's also ready and raring to scale the heights of big-time boxing.

After winning numerous national titles in the amateur ranks and leaving a 180-20 win-loss record, Gorres is well on his way to carving his own name in the prizefight arena. (Gorres was formerly called ZC, after his parents Zita and Celestino.)

Last January, after compiling seven more professional wins, Gorres appeared in a Sinulog card at the carpark of Gaisano Country Mall in Cebu City.

Lawyer-sportsman Rudy Salud, still reeling from the failure to lead Gerry Peñalosa back to the world crown, was at ringside upon the invitation of sportsman Tony Aldeguer.

After watching Gorres tear Ricky Escaner apart in four rounds, Salud swore he had seen something very special.

Going by what Salud would tell mediamen later, Gorres was what he could call his dream fighter.

Salud, founding sec-gen of the WBC said he saw in the young Gorres a future world champ.

Salud, naturally, wasted no time.

He readily negotiated with Aldeguer, and the two agreed to act as Gorres' co-manager.

Salud vowed to invest time, money and effort to help Gorres in a world title quest.

That early, Salud announced his plans of sending Gorres to train in the California gym of the renowned Freddie Roach, who currently handles the comebacking Mike Tyson and our very own Manny Pacquiao, among other noted fighters.

Gorres packs great gifts. He's got cat-quick reflexes and moves around the ring with calculated grace.

Unbeaten in 13 fights with 7 KOs, the new Philippine flyweight king also has the heart of a fighting general in a battlefield.

"Yes, he has tremendous skills, but we're still working on his power," explained Gorres' chief trainer Edito Ala Villamor, a one-time challenger to the legendary Ricardo Lopez.

Ironically, Gorres considers Lopez his boxing idol, while Sugar Ray Leonard fascinates him no end.

"I was 12 years old when I started boxing," said Gorres, who was named Philippine flyweight champ a few days before his birthday last April 18.

Gorres said he would have welcomed the idea of trading leather with then champ Rolly Lunas. But as fate would have it, Lunas decided to relinquish the title and move a division higher to the super fly division.

GORRES (right) sparring with his trainer

Earlier, Gorres had won the interim RP title by knocking out Roy Balataria in six rounds in the undercard to the Manny Pacquiao-Serikzhan Yeshmangbetov tiff last March 15 at the Luneta.

After that win, Salud had lobbied for Lunas to face Gorres in a match for the regular title. Lunas' camp, however, wouldn't cooperate and chose a Japan fight instead.

Fighting under Aldeguer's amateur boxing program, Gorres won numerous titles before turning pro.

Gorres was a gold medallist at the 1999 National Youth Open held in Bago City. A year later, he captured gold at the 2000 Palarong Pambansa. In the same year, Gorres again turned in a scintillating performance in winning the Palaro ng Bayan gold.

Unforgettable stints as a simonpure also include his golden feats at both the Milo Olympics and Cebu Inter-School where he was also chosen Best Boxer in both tournaments. The Inter-School event was more meaningful as he beat the popular Rodel "Batang Mandaue" Mayol in the finals.

After his last victory in the amateurs against Romeo Buhawi, Gorres turned pro in the early part of 2001 under the ALA Stable of Aldeguer.

As a standout ex-amateur, he was allowed to move direct into a 6-rounder against Rudy Hibaya whom he easily outpointed.

Two more knockout victories came after that.

Then, in only his fourth pro fight and first foray as a 10-rounder, Gorres faced a tough 33-fight veteran in Bert Cano. Unable to contain the wild-punching Cano in the first four rounds, Gorres used his jab and lateral skills, piling up points to cruise to a split decision win.

"That was really my toughest fight. But I used my skills and hit him with combinations," Gorres, who is also an incoming sophomore at the University of the Visayas, explained.

With both Salud and Aldeguer fully behind him, Z Gorres, The Dream, has all the reason to dream of a world title.

Revenge theme of Mangubat crown quest

FOR Randy Mangubat, the purse hardly matters in his challenge for Pongsaklem Wonjongkam's World Boxing Council flyweight crown. He's eyeing revenge.

Mangubat stands to receive only $7,000 (around P365,000), based on the fight contract that he signed recently.

But this didn't discourage the Sto. Tomas, Davao del Norte-native a bit.

"It doesn't matter at this time. What's important, that contract officially installed me as (Wonjongkam's) next challenger and it gives me a chance to bring home the WBC title," said Mangubat, who has been holding the WBC international flyweight belt (for boxers ranked 11th up) since October 2000.

The 12-round title fight gives Mangubat a chance for revenge against the Thai, who has beaten him convincingly in their first two meetings—the first via a 3rd round knockout in 1996, and the second by unanimous decision in 1999. Both fights were held in Thailand.

The 26-year-old Wonjongkam holds a 46-win (26 by knockout), 2-loss record, both defeats coming at the hands of Filipino Jery Pahayahay in 1995 and 1996.

In 1998, however, the Thai got back over Pahayahay with a 10-round decision.

Mangubat's record stands at 31 wins (14 by knockout) 17 draws and 11 losses.

The Mangubat-Wonjongkam fight is set on June 6 at Samilha Bay in Songkla province, Thailand.

The original contract, which Mangubat's Manila-based Japanese handler Yuki Murayama signed, has been sent to Bangkok by air cargo.

If Mangubat beats Wonjongkam, the contract obliges him to make a first defense against Japanese Masaki Nakanuma in Japan sometime late July or early August.

Wonjongkam, a southpaw, has defended the WBC 112-lb title seven times since he wrested it via a first round knockout of erstwhile champion Malcolm Tunacao of Mandaue City on March 2, 2001 in Pichit, Thailand. *Rey Danseco*

El Matador charges ahead in Argentine rally

SPAIN'S Carlos Sainz seized the overnight lead in the rally of Argentina on Friday as Peugeot's early leader Marcus Gronholm struck a rock.

Citroen's Sainz, who won for Ford last year after world champion Gronholm and team mate Richard Burns were disqualified, ended the first leg 22.4 seconds clear of Ford's charging Estonian Markko Martin.

The former champion, 'El Matador' to his fans, hit the front on stage seven before Gronholm's challenge was slowed when he knocked a wheel off his car on the Ascochinga-1 ninth stage.

"It's okay, it's still got three wheels on it," Gronholm told the official WRC website after nursing the car back to the service area.

Gronholm lost almost two minutes and was sixth, one minute 24.3 seconds behind Sainz. Burns was third just 1.7 seconds ahead of his Finnish team mate Harri Rovanpera.

SPAIN'S Carlos Sainz drives his Citroen with his co-driver Marc Marti during Argentina's Car Rally in Cordoba Friday. AP

"There were no problems and I just took it steady," said Rovanpera.

Briton Colin McRae, Sainz's team mate and winner in Argentina two years ago, went out with a blown engine on stage nine after struggling through the previous stage.

Gronholm had led since Thursday's short opening sprint and had been 14.9 seconds clear of Sainz before the seventh stage.

Finland's Tommi Makinen had also challenged strongly in second place before mechanical problems caused his Subaru to limp through in first gear on stage eight.

It was a difficult day for Subaru with Norwegian Petter Solberg, who had been Gronholm's closest rival in the morning, rolling on stage five and losing two minutes after being helped out of a ditch by spectators.

A problem with the official timing also gave some drivers a headache.

"I can't believe that they can let this happen," said a frustrated Burns. "I'm happy with my driving but not really sure where I am overall." The rally ends on Sunday. *Reuters*

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AT A GLANCE

NBA PLAYOFFS 2003

SECOND ROUND

Eastern Conference

(1) Detroit vs. (4) Philadelphia

Pistons 2, Sixers 0
Game 1: Detroit 98, Philadelphia 87
Game 2: Detroit 104, Philadelphia 97
Game 3 at Philadelphia (May 11, 7 a.m.)
Game 4 at Philadelphia (May 12, 8 a.m.)
*Game 5 at Detroit (May 15, TBD)
*Game 6 at Philadelphia (May 17, TBD)
*Game 7 at Detroit (May 19, TBD)

(2) New Jersey vs (6) Boston

Nets 3, Celtics 0
Game : New Jersey 97, Boston 93
Game 2 : New Jersey 104, Boston 95
Game 3: New Jersey 94, Boston 76
Game 4 at Boston (May 13, 8 a.m.)
*Game 5 at New Jersey (May 15, TBD)
*Game 6 at Boston (May 17, TBD)
*Game 7 at New Jersey (May 19, TBD)

WESTERN CONFERENCE

(1) San Antonio vs (5) LA Lakers

Spurs 2, Lakers 1
Game 1: San Antonio 87, Lakers 82
Game 2: San Antonio 114, Lakers 95
Game 3: Los Angeles 110, San Antonio 95
Game 4 at Los Angeles (May 12, 3:30 am)
*Game 5 at San Antonio (May 14, TBD)
*Game 6 at Los Angeles (May 16, TBD)
*Game 7 at San Antonio (May 18, TBD)

(2) Sacramento vs (3) Dallas

Kings 1, Mavs 1
Game 1: Sacramento 124, Dallas 113
Game 2: Dallas 132, Sacramento 110
Game 3 at Sacramento (May 10, 9:30 am)
Game 4 at Sacramento (May 12, 10:30 am)
*Game 5 at Dallas (May 14, TBD)
*Game 6 at Sacramento (May 16, TBD)
*Game 7 at Dallas (May 18, TBD)

* If necessary
TBD (To Be Determined)

Nets put Celtics in a hole

EAST RUTHERFORD--Kenyon Martin scored 25 points and Richard Jefferson added 20 as the New Jersey Nets defeated the Boston Celtics 94-76 in the Eastern Conference semi-finals on Friday.

The convincing victory gave New Jersey a 3-0 lead in the best-of-seven series.

The Nets will advance to the East final for the second straight year with a win in game four Monday in Boston, and no team in NBA history has ever come back from a 3-0 series deficit.

"I told the players before the game there's a big difference between 3-0 and 2-1 in a series," said New Jersey coach Byron Scott.

"They responded well tonight. Obviously that's a fantastic win for us. To come out and play like that from start to finish is terrific." The Nets were always in control and pulled away from the Celtics in the second half, totally dominating Boston for most of the game.

Jason Kidd had nine points, nine rebounds and 11 assists for the Nets, who led by 20 points after three quarters and by as many as 25 at one point.

The Nets beat the Celtics in last year's East final but in game three in Boston last year they blew a 21-point lead in the fourth quarter.

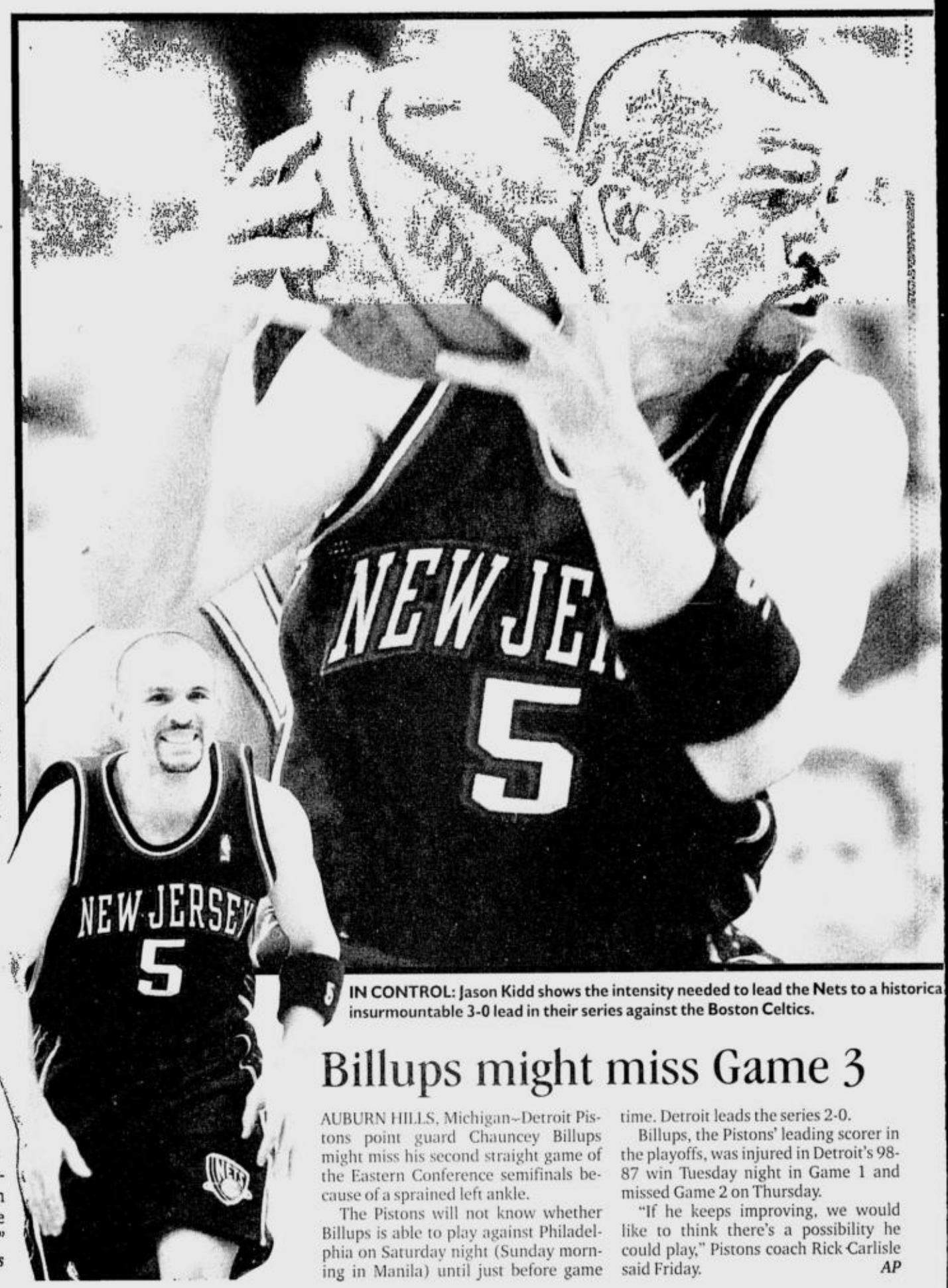
There was never any danger of that happening Friday as the Nets displayed poise playing in front of the rabid Boston fans.

"We want to come out and be aggressive," Martin said. "It was a great team effort. We want to duplicate the effort (Monday) and hopefully get this done." Paul Pierce had 23 points and 10 rebounds for the Celtics but left the game late in the fourth quarter with a leg injury.

Tony Delk had 16 points, while Antoine Walker added 15 points and 15 rebounds.

"We dug a hole with nine turnovers in the first quarter and never recovered from that," Celtics coach Jim O'Brien said. "We have to take one game at a time and try to stay alive."

Reuters



IN CONTROL: Jason Kidd shows the intensity needed to lead the Nets to a historica insurmountable 3-0 lead in their series against the Boston Celtics.

Ainge back with Celtics

BOSTON--Danny Ainge, who played on two world championship teams for the Boston Celtics, was appointed as the club's new executive director of basketball operations on Friday.

Ainge, 44, will begin his duties on Monday but will not interfere with the team's preparation for the June 26 NBA Draft.

"If they want my help, they know where to find me," Ainge said at a news conference, adding that he will not make any changes until the season is over.

"I don't want to be a distraction for what they've got going." The Celtics are in the Eastern Conference semi-finals, playing the New Jersey Nets. *Reuters*

Billups might miss Game 3

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan--Detroit Pistons point guard Chauncey Billups might miss his second straight game of the Eastern Conference semifinals because of a sprained left ankle.

The Pistons will not know whether Billups is able to play against Philadelphia on Saturday night (Sunday morning in Manila) until just before game time. Detroit leads the series 2-0.

Billups, the Pistons' leading scorer in the playoffs, was injured in Detroit's 98-87 win Tuesday night in Game 1 and missed Game 2 on Thursday.

"If he keeps improving, we would like to think there's a possibility he could play," Pistons coach Rick Carlisle said Friday. *AP*

AGONY ON THE FLOOR: Sacramento Kings' Chris Webber lies injured during on the court during Thursday's game against the Mavericks in Dallas. AP

Docs give Mourning clean bill

MIAMI--Miami Heat center Alonzo Mourning has been told by doctors he can return to the NBA next season after being sidelined indefinitely last year with a deteriorating kidney condition.

Mourning, 33, will become a free agent July 1 as his seven-year, $105 million contract with the Miami Heat expired at the end of the regular season.

He has missed all of the past season, as well as all but 13 games during the 2000-01 season.

The seven-time NBA all-star center was cleared to play after a physical examination Thursday by Dr. Victor Richards, his Miami nephrologist.

Mourning had been told by doctors to skip the 2002-03 season because test results indicated his condition had worsened. *Reuters*

Chris Webber out of NBA playoffs

SACRAMENTO, California--Chris Webber of the Sacramento Kings will miss the rest of the NBA playoffs because of a torn cartilage in his left knee, the team announced on Friday.

An MRI scan on Webber, who was hurt late in the third quarter of Thursday night's playoff game against the Dallas Mavericks, revealed a torn meniscus which will require arthroscopic surgery.

No date was announced for the surgery, but the rehabilitation period is expected to be between four and six weeks, the team said.

"Chris has been a true warrior all season, having played through a number of injuries," Kings vice president Geoff Petrie said in a statement.

"This is a huge disappointment, both personally and professionally, for Chris and the entire organization." Webber, who was carried off the court after landing awkwardly on a non-contact play under the basket in the third quarter, led Sacramento in points, rebounds and assists during the regular season.

"However, we have always been a very resilient team when confronted with these types of situations in the past. I'm sure our team will be ready to respond to the challenge," Petrie added.

Webber's injury comes at a bad time for the Kings, who are considered to be a serious contender for the NBA title this season.

Their best-of-seven Western Conference semi-final series is tied 1-1 with Dallas, with two games in Dallas coming up at the weekend.

Bobby Jackson also left Thursday's game against Dallas with a fractured cheekbone in the fourth quarter, but has been cleared to play for Sacramento despite a non-displaced orbital fracture. *Reuters*

SPORTS noodle

By Bong Barrameda

Number Cruncher

A serving of 7 questions, from easiest to toughest, each with a corresponding point value. Can you score a perfect 100 (or, at least, beat the other 'sports genius/geniuses' beside you)?

1) 3 points
❑ True / ❑ False: From the floor, an official basketball goal should be 10 feet high.

2) 5 points
In soccer, how many players per team are there on the field at the start of a match:
❑ 10 / ❑ 11?

3) 7 points
A standard Olympic swimming pool is divided into how many lanes?
❑ 6
❑ 8
❑ 10

4) 10 points
How long, in kilometers, is a full marathon?
❑ 40.367
❑ 42.195
❑ 45.820

5) 15 points
In billiards, how many inches long is a standard cue stick?
❑ 51
❑ 54
❑ 57
❑ 60

6) 25 points
In you're competing in the Indianapolis 500 motor race, how many laps do you need to finish the event?
❑ 200
❑ 300
❑ 400
❑ 500

7) 30 points
Count 'em: How many dimples are there on a regulation-size golf ball?

ANSWERS/ A31

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Kobe, Shaq bring Lakers back to life

SAN ANTONIO--Kobe Bryant scored 39 points and Shaquille O'Neal 21 as the three-time defending NBA champion Los Angeles Lakers routed the San Antonio Spurs 110-95 in the Western Conference semi-finals on Friday.

Along with his 21 points, O'Neal also got 16 rebounds and eight assists.

The Lakers had lost to the Spurs six straight times this season, including the first two games of the playoff series, but they looked every inch the defending champions as they led the game from start to finish.

The Spurs still lead the best-of-seven series 2-1 and game four is Sunday afternoon in Los Angeles.

"It was important for us to remain poised," Bryant said after the game.

"They (the Spurs) took care of their home court, now we have to do the same thing on Sunday." Actor and Lakers fan Jack Nicholson created a bit a furor in the first half as he walked towards the court to criticize an official. He was warned by security not to approach the floor again after the referees complained.

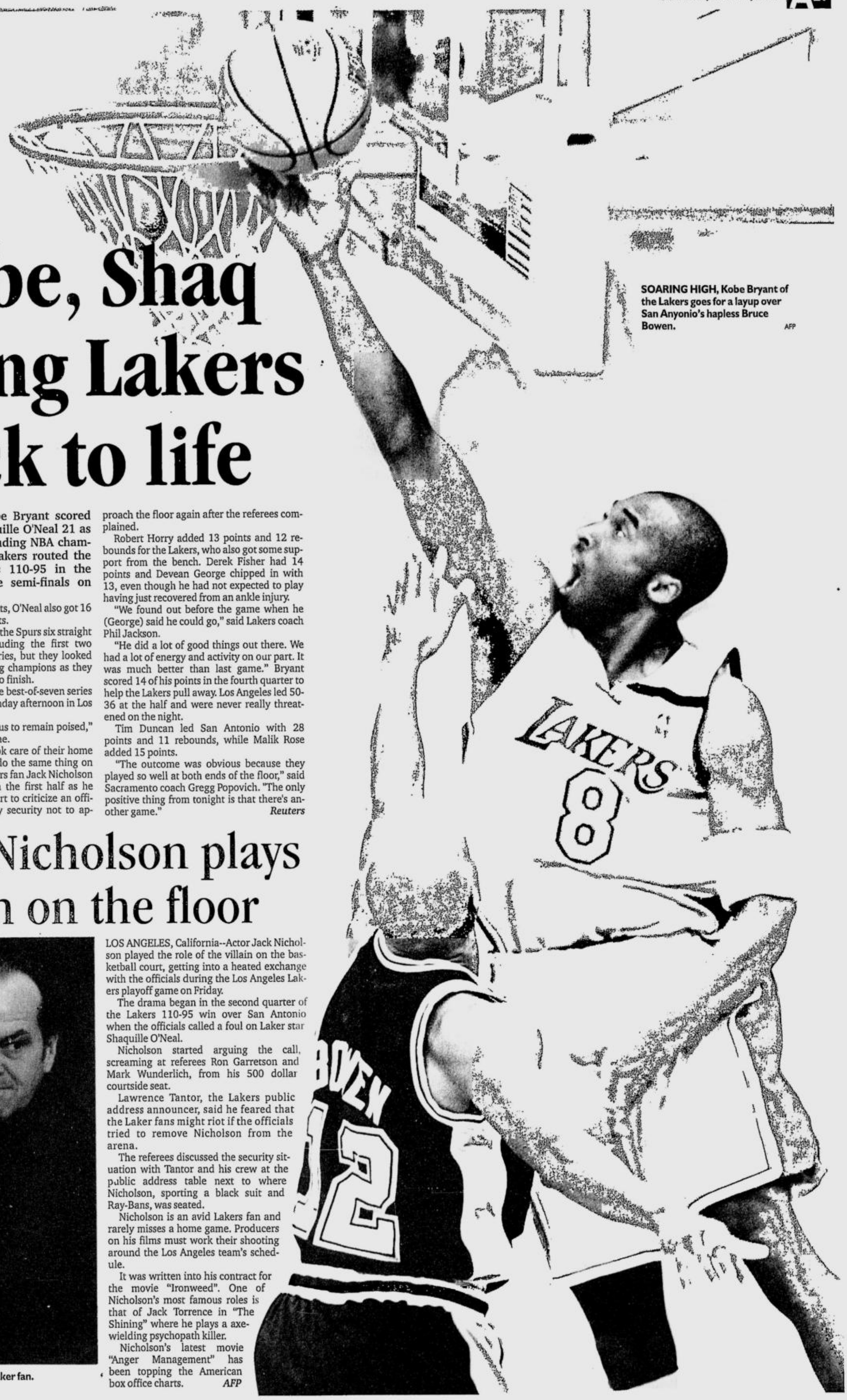
Robert Horry added 13 points and 12 rebounds for the Lakers, who also got some support from the bench. Derek Fisher had 14 points and Devean George chipped in with 13, even though he had not expected to play having just recovered from an ankle injury.

"We found out before the game when he (George) said he could go," said Lakers coach Phil Jackson.

"He did a lot of good things out there. We had a lot of energy and activity on our part. It was much better than last game." Bryant scored 14 of his points in the fourth quarter to help the Lakers pull away. Los Angeles led 50-36 at the half and were never really threatened on the night.

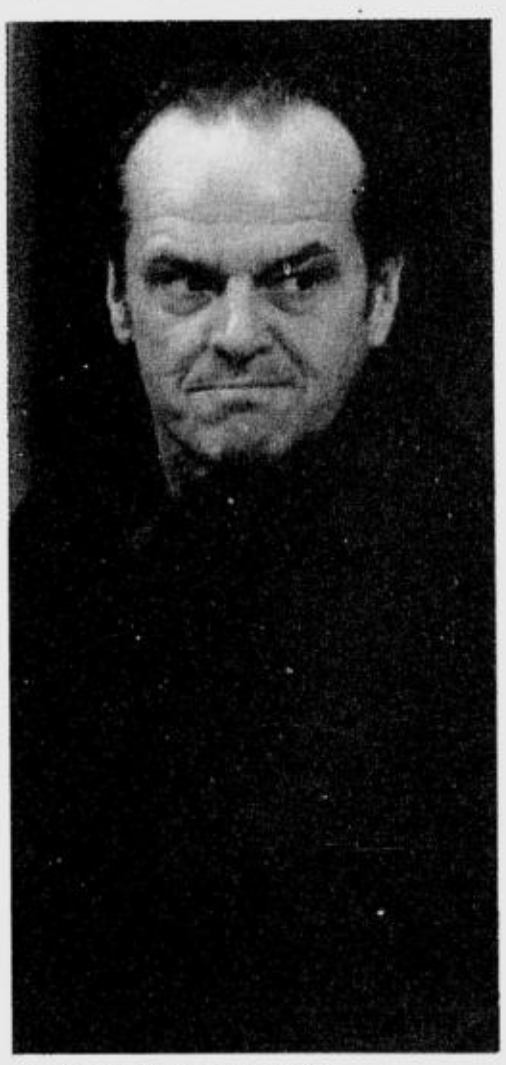
Tim Duncan led San Antonio with 28 points and 11 rebounds, while Malik Rose added 15 points.

"The outcome was obvious because they played so well at both ends of the floor," said Sacramento coach Gregg Popovich. "The only positive thing from tonight is that there's another game." *Reuters*



SOARING HIGH, Kobe Bryant of the Lakers goes for a layup over San Anyonio's hapless Bruce Bowen. AFP

Jack Nicholson plays villain on the floor



NICHOLSON: No. 1 Laker fan.

LOS ANGELES, California--Actor Jack Nicholson played the role of the villain on the basketball court, getting into a heated exchange with the officials during the Los Angeles Lakers playoff game on Friday.

The drama began in the second quarter of the Lakers 110-95 win over San Antonio when the officials called a foul on Laker star Shaquille O'Neal.

Nicholson started arguing the call, screaming at referees Ron Garretson and Mark Wunderlich, from his 500 dollar courtside seat.

Lawrence Tantor, the Lakers public address announcer, said he feared that the Laker fans might riot if the officials tried to remove Nicholson from the arena.

The referees discussed the security situation with Tantor and his crew at the public address table next to where Nicholson, sporting a black suit and Ray-Bans, was seated.

Nicholson is an avid Lakers fan and rarely misses a home game. Producers on his films must work their shooting around the Los Angeles team's schedule.

It was written into his contract for the movie "Ironweed". One of Nicholson's most famous roles is that of Jack Torrence in "The Shining" where he plays a axe-wielding psychopath killer.

Nicholson's latest movie "Anger Management" has been topping the American box office charts. *AFP*

Auerbach defends Boston Celtics followers

BOSTON--Red Auerbach, who hired the NBA's first black coach and fielded its first all-black starting five, defended Boston on Friday after Nets coach Byron Scott said the city is unwelcoming to minorities.

Responding to Scott's comments on a New York radio show calling some Boston fans "cruel" and implying they're racist, the longtime Celtics leader said, "What the hell does he know?"

"It's just a stupid remark," Auerbach said. "It's as simple as that."

Anticipating a return of the animosity from last year's Eastern Conference finals, Scott told WFAN earlier in the week that Celtics fans were "very cruel and they can be crazy."

"They've had their share of beers already before the game has started," Scott said. "They're not very good fans. You can have a great tradition and have a great fan without being crazy and hostile."

Scott, who played for the Los Angeles Lakers during their heated rivalry with the Celtics in the 1980s, also revived the complaint that Boston is hostile to black players.

"I don't think we're way past that," he said. "I don't think you are out of line for saying that. A lot of black players feel that way. We did in the '80s. And I know in the '80s, at least some of their black players still couldn't go to certain places. And that was their own players. Some cities or organizations or whatever you want to say haven't caught up to the year 2000 yet."

Former Celtics such as Bill Russell and Dee Brown did complain during their playing days that Boston was not the most welcoming city. When he played for Boston in the 1990s, Brown was manhandled by suburban police looking for a bank robber.

"But I don't think any of them were unhappy they played here," Auerbach said. "They were never sorry they played here."

Although Nets star Jason Kidd was booed in Friday night's game, the crowd booed loudest in the introductions for Scott. But during the game, as the Celtics fell behind by 20 points in the third quarter, the fans reprised their "wife-beater" chant from the previous year.

Kidd was charged with striking his wife in 2001; the charges were dropped when Kidd underwent anger counseling and paid a fine.

When the series was in New Jersey, a fan held up a sign that said, "Will someone please stab Paul Pierce." Pierce was stabbed multiple times in his face, neck and back at a nightclub in 2000.

As he did last year in Game 6, Kidd decided not to bring his wife and their son, T.J., who's now 4, to the game.

Late in the game, with the outcome all but decided, Celtics forward Antoine Walker had to be restrained from going after a fan behind the bench. Other fans, some wearing Celtics jerseys and coming out of the section where the players' friends sit, attempted to come to Walker's defense, but they nearly incited a melee. *AP*

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SPORTSWATCH

Eagle Ridge inv'tl tilt May 23-25

FALDO

THE THIRD Eagle Ridge Invitational golf tournament slated May 23-25 at the Andy Dye and Nick Faldo courses of the country's biggest golf complex in Gen. Trias, Cavite will stake a brand new Ford Lynx and Ford Ranger as hole-in-one prizes. Ford-Edsa and Alsons Insurance are putting the Ranger at stake for aces on the 17th hole of the Dye course and No. 3 of the Faldo layout. The Ford vehicles will be apart from the bonanza of other prizes to be given away which include appliances, Callaway equipment, merchandise and a lot more worth at least P1.5 million. More than 400 players will see action in the 54-hole member-guest tourney of the country's biggest golf club complex which has also drawn the support of Callaway through its local distributor Electrobus Consolidated Inc. Shotgun start for all combination days (Friday/Dye-Saturday/Faldo, Friday/Faldo-Sunday/Dye and Saturday/Dye-Sunday/Faldo) is 10:30 a.m. Registration is still ongoing for the golfest. For inquiries, call 046-4192843.

Belicena captures Class A plum

JUN Belicena conquered the tough Masters course and his younger opponents with 1-under-par net 71 to win the Class A division in the April monthly tournament of the Manila Southwoods Golf and Country Club in Carmona, Cavite. Belicena, a senior member carrying an 8-handicap, beat expat Indren Naidoo by one stroke. Naidoo shot the day's best gross of 77 in the vent sponsored by Mitsubishi Motors, Royal Caribbean International, Northwest Airlines, Thai Airways and Wilson Sports. A total of 279 participants battled it out for the top honors, P1.5 million worth of hole-in-one prizes and P350,000 worth of raffle prizes offered every month. "We would like to thank again all our sponsors who have made our monthly tournaments beyond compare in terms of number of players, raffle and hole-in-one prizes," said sports and games committee chair Freddie Mendoza. Class B winners Ian Arceo (1st), Manolo Agojo (2nd) and Raul Magpantay (3rd) were big revelations as their scores were better than the majority of players in Class A.

Knights, Bombers near showdown

DEFENDING champions Knights and league-leading Bombay Bombers scored contrasting wins recently to nudge closer to their expected title showdown in the 2003 Fil-Indian Basketball League at the Makati Coliseum. The Knights came from behind to edge the Kings, 93-89, while the Bombers whipped the Titans, 78-65. It was the Knights' third victory against a single loss, assuring themselves of at least a playoff spot for a championship berth. Game MVP Ravi Gurnamal, who had another triple double performance, iced the game for the Knights with a pair of free throws in the final six seconds of the game. The Bombers shoot for their fifth win today against the Kings at 3 p.m. while the Knights try to solidify their hold of second place against the Titans at 5 p.m.

Arcilla trips Victorino in Cebu

ARCILLA

PHILIPPINE Air Force bet Johnny Arcilla humbled top seed Joseph Victorino, 6-0, ret., to rule the Mandaue Open recently at the Mantads Tennis Club in Cebu City. It was the second straight singles title this year for Arcilla, who also teamed up with Rolando Ruel Jr. in winning the doubles crown over Joel Palao and Jesse Lapore, 6-3, 6-2. Arcilla also defeated the 2002 PCA Open champion Victorino in straight sets, 6-1, 6-0, to win the Bohol Open last week. Meanwhile, Irwin de Guzman outclassed Ralph Kevin Barte, 6-1, 6-3, yesterday to pocket the boys' 18-under title in the Philta Age Group Championships at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center. In the girls division, Bien Zoleta won the 18-under title over Ivy de Castro, 6-0, 6-1 while younger sister Bambi Zoleta captured the 16-under title over Jessica Agra, 4-6, 7-5, 6-2.

'Fistorama' fights at Cantada Arena

ESTEBAN Ramos faces Ryan Fermillan in a lightweight match-up while Marving Morales squares off with Juvi Nova in the super-lightweight division of the Samsung Fistorama today. The fights were held recently at the state-of-the-art Joe Cantada Boxing Arena in Taguig, Metro Manila. Today's show also features an interview with San Youl Eom, president of Samsung Electronics Phils. by the broadcast panel. The popular weekly boxing show is produced by Joe Cantada Sports and aired weekly in the United States, Australia, Japan, the Middle East and soon in Europe through ABS-CBN's Pinoy Central TV. It is shown every Sunday noon on RPN 9 and is backed by Samsung Electronics Phils., Corp.

Age-group chessfest starts tomorrow

THE METROPOLITAN Chess Club Age-group Chess Championships unfold at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow (May 12), at the Chowking-Remar branch in Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City. The one-day event is divided into two categories: Under 12 and Under 18. Qualified to join the Under 12 section are those born 1991 onwards. For under 18—must be born 1985 onwards. The tourney will employ the five-round Swiss system and time control of twenty five minutes per player in selecting the top four winners in each category who will receive medals and cash prizes. For more details, call 826-8560 or 0918-939-3702.

Batangas GP on motorsports show

MOTORSPORTS show "Speed" unveils its fourth season on ABC-5 with its all-new episodes starting today from 11 p.m. to 12 midnight. "We are excited to bring the latest motorsports and other adrenaline-producing games back to your living rooms," said international formula driver and Speed host Mike Potenciano. "We have a lot of races in store for you especially since Speed has been appointed as the official TV coverage of several races." Speed will telecast the highlights of the Casino Filipino Grand Prix Series at the Batangas Racing Circuit presented by Pagcor Sports. MP Turbo's own Speedfest and Supercross Series will be shown including its soon to be launched new series this year.

Bergavera snares 2 net titles

GERARD Bergavera swamped Jansie Cusay 6-2, 6-1 and Neil Tupaz, 6-2, 6-2 to bag the boys' 16-under division in the 2003 Milo Junior Tennis Cup and Regional Workshop here yesterday at the Cadiz Tennis Club. Bergavera posted a double kill following a 6-3, 6-2 triumph over Jopy Mamawal in the boys' 14-under bracket in the Milo netfest organized by CTW and supported by Wilson balls, Adidas and Aports Kids with a Group-3 sanction from Philta RVP Dr. Rex Jalandoon. Bergavera shared the limelight with Arnold Rodriguez, a 6-4, 6-3 winner over Bryan Dominguez in the boys' 18-under; Tao Yee Tan whipped Angelica Napiere 6-2, 6-3 in the girls' 12-under; Julie Ann Sagansay past Tan 6-2, 6-3 in the girls' 14-under; and Marvin Umadhay over Genesis Pavilla 1-6, 7-6, 6-3 in the boys' 12-under class. On hand to award the Milo trophies were club president Daday Sta. Ana and tennis patron Salvador Lopez.

San Pablo triathlon slated May 24

THE SPRINT Triathlon (800 meters swim, 20 km bike and 5 km run) competition will be staged on May 24, 6 a.m., at the BJ Country Club in San Pablo City. Now on its second year, the event coincides in the city's celebration of their Foundation Day. Host is Col. Jose Jamora Jr., owner of the BJ Country Club and Mantas Swimming Team headed by Louie Mangahis. Also backing the meet is San Pablo Mayor Boy Aquino. For inquiries, contact call Anchoriz at 868-7588, 0920-850-6550 and Louie, 0916-660-4727.

Air Force booters nip Armymen

PHILIPPINE Air Force continued its dominance over Philippine Army by scoring a 4-3 victory in the final of the Gentxt National Beach Football Series 2003 recently at the Caribou Restaurant beach front in Boracay. Air Force, which also beat Army in the Luzon leg of the meet, swept the four-team double round elimination after hurdling Army, local team Hey Jude, and Visayas champion Central Philippines University. The women's side of the two-day tournament sponsored by Globe, and supported by Centrum, Gatorade, Viva Mineral Water, Computer Mind Philippines, SBMA, National Sports Grill, Caribou Restaurant and the Philippine Sports Commission, was ruled by UST-Alumnae over Atletico-Cocomangas.

FIRST GENTLEMAN CUP

Wind Blown seeks '3-peat' today at Santa Ana Park

By Edwin Villanueva

ALL eyes will be on Wind Blown again when he competes in the third First Gentleman Silver Cup (FGSC) today at the Santa Ana Park.

Despite a two-month layoff and a heavy 62-kilo load, the multi-titled galloper owned by Hermie Esguerra is still the odds-on choice to win the 2,050-meter event.

If he prevails, the towering son of Hazm and Wind in My Hair would complete a record "three-peat" in the race which he had easily ruled the past two years.

"He's ready," Esguerra told the INQUIRER. "Barring any hitches, we hope to see him first again at the finish line."

Star jockey Fernando "Dhunoy" Raquel Jr. will once again guide Wind Blown, whose trainer Nestor Manalang had also pronounced the horse fit and ready for this afternoon's outing.

"He's been doing good in workouts and he's in top form," said Manalang.

Six other classy chargers will try to foil Wind Blown in the event which offers P1.1 million to the champion.

They are multi-titled filly Golden Ballet, multiple stakes winner Lyonnais and Perfect Storm, noted stretch runner Hyperbid and group standouts Kitty Hawk and Sparkling Sky.

WIND BLOWN with regular partner Fernando "Dhunoy" Raquel, Jr.
PDI PHOTO

Distance-wise, Hyperbid and Lyonnais loom as the biggest threats to Wind Blown, a two-time PSA Horse of the Year awardee who has now earned close to P18 million.

No less than First Gentleman Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo, the race honoree, has been invited to grace the affair once more and award the Silver Cup to the winning connections.

President Macapagal-Arroyo may also accompany the First Gentleman as in the first two stagings of the race.

Wind Blown's last victory prior to today's race came in the Senate Cup on March 2 where Raquel guided him to an impressive win.

"As long as he shows his old , deadly form he'll be hard to beat," said Raquel, leading rider of the powerhouse Esguerra Stable.

Backing up the FGSC is the P500,000 Philracom Silver Cup Hopeful Stakes featuring 11 runners led by Lord of All, Hazmoore, Adam's Call, Fast Eddie and My Preperido.

Others competing in the 1,600-meter race are Master Ijhay, Bulakeña, Dandansoy, Mica's Magic, Cavite Starlet and Gemstone.

Lord of All and My Preperido, as well as coupled bets Adam's Call and Bulakeña are the pre-race favorites in the contest.

Where are the big guns?

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

FROM a pile of our letter and e-mail senders comes this very interesting piece from Gilbert Arrieta of Makati City about the San Lazaro Leisure Park and the "missing" horseowners. Read on:

Dear Edwin,

Many things were said about the transfer of MJCI to Carmona, Cavite and most of them were negative.

I haven't been to the park since it opened. I guess it's too far from where I live and I'm not really that interested to go there because of these negative comments.

But there is one thing that I noticed when races are held at the San Lazaro Leisure Park. The lineup and number of horses are not so interesting.

Whenever races are held at SLLP, I don't get excited anymore because there are only few horses seeing action. In previous outings at SLLP, horses which ran on Wednesdays or Thursdays are listed again for the Saturday and Sunday programs.

Another thing I noticed is that most of the prominent horseowners are not allowing their horses to run at the SLLP. It seems that they are avoiding it like the plague.

I have not seen the top-caliber horses of Mr. Hermie Esguerra or Mr. Putch Puyat compete at the Carmona track. Of late, even Sandy Javier has not been entering his horses there. We racing fans also miss the gallopers of Bienvenido Niles Jr., Myther Buñag and the other popular owners.

If the line up of horses will continue to be like that, horse racing in SLLP will suffer.

If things will get better (not only the facilities but more importantly the operation) we aficionados will be attracted to go the Carmona facility.

At the moment, I will enjoy watching the races at the Santa Ana Park in Makati and wait for the right time to really enjoy the action at SLLP.

Thank your very much and always continue to update your "classmates" so that they will not miss the happenings inside and outside the racetracks.

GILBERT S. ARRIETA
San Antonio Village, Makati City
(betstong@yahoo.com)

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Despite the fact that Wind Blown is carrying the top weight of 62 kilos and has had no tuneup run prior to today's third staging of the First Gentleman Silver Cup, owner Hermie Esguerra isn't a bit worried.

"He's in good condition. I believe in his capability and hopefully, he'll make it again," Esguerra told us yesterday. Wind Blown, who overpowered the field in his last outing in the Senate Cup (March 2), is gunning for a record "three-peat" in the Silver Cup. If he wins, he'll pocket P1.1 million and up his career earnings past the P18-million mark.

***

E-mail One Winner at evillanueva@inquirer.com.ph or sports@inquirer.com.ph

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. You Know That 2. Mrs. Big 3. American Dame/Bye Bye Baby
Race 2—1. Alessandra 2. Glamour Girl 3. Lucky Choice 4. Firenze Rose 5. Rose and Toy
Race 3—1. Magic Bullet 2. Silver Lining 3. Lucky Ei 4. Saint Michael
Race 4—1. Star Worth 2. Doctor Steve 3. Cause of Our Joy 4. Very Sharp 5. Shutler
Race 5—1. Wind Blown 2. Hyperbid 3. Lyonnais 4. Golden Ballet
Race 6—1. Suonos 2. Rosekaape 3. L'Islet Sur Mer 4. Surprise Target 5. Hantuchova
Race 7—1. My Preperido 2. Lord of All 3. Adam's Call/Bulakeña 4. Dandansoy/Hazmoore 5. Fast Eddie
Race 8—1. Kokopelli 2. Fortissimo 3. Hallmark 4. Successful Dream
Race 9—1. Ouzo 2. Mrs. Rainier
Race 10—1. Yours Truly 2. Gleaming Heart 3. Pep Talk 4. Boy From Brazil 5. Close Account
Race 11—1. Taller Cover 2. Bumper to Bumper/Nokaba 3. Dixie Dancer 4. Apple Splash 5. Sacred Hall
Race 12—1. Reporter 2. Speed Machine 3. Mister Cool/Powerhouse 4. Rosewood 5. Technic
Race 13—1. Sealed With A Kiss 2. D'Minnows 3. Ahead of Time/Night Flight 4. Harvesting Game 5. Run Dodging Fly 6. Musikero

Tight battle seen in nat'l amateur

KEEN competition is expected in this year's Philippine Amateur golf championship beginning May 13 at the Langer course of the Riviera Golf Club in Silang, Cavite.

The best and the brightest amateurs are all accounted for with Jerome Delariarte gunning for a second straight championship in the six-day event held under the auspices of the National Golf Association of the Philippines (NGAP).

Delariarte outlasted former champion and now-pro Angelo Que in the marathon 36-hole finale a the Dye course of the Eagle Ridge golf complex last year and the Southwoods bet is favored to retain his crown.

His main challengers include reigning Southeast Asian Games champion Juvic Pagunsan, Jay Bayron, DHL champion Abe Rosal, Marvin Dumandan, Juami Rocha and former champion Artemio Murakami, who confirmed his participation despite the recent death of his father.

Also in the fold are veteran campaigners Tommy Manotoc, Iggy Clavecilla, Jose Mari Hechanova and Dave Hernandez.

The format calls for a 36-hole stroke play elimination in the first two days with the top 32 players moving to the match play phase.

Meanwhile, the organizing NGAP announced that the first 120 male amateur players with handicap indices of 9 or below will be accepted to play. Deadline for listup is at noon today, with the entry fee pegged at P1,500 inclusive of a practice round.

Tee-off time starts at 7 a.m.

For details, contact NGAP at 5256987 or 5245160, fax no. 5211587 and the Riviera Golf Club at tel. nos. (046) 4142836/39, fax. no. (046) 4142838.

Greenhills squads lead Intervillage East cast

GREENHILLS I and II are the teams to beat in the Nokia Intervillage East tournament golf which gets under way tomorrow (May 12) at the Riviera Golf and Country Club.

The Greenhills I golfers won top honors in last year's staging of this sectoral tournament among villages in San Juan, Pasig and Marikina, beating the Greenhills 2 team by 22 points. But they faltered in the grand finals, finishing third in the A Division while Greenhills 2 placed second in the B Division.

With intact rosters, however, the Greenhills squads are again excited to slug it out for the No. 1 spot in the first round of the 36-holes series where the top three places will advance to the semifinal round of the annual event sponsored by Nokia, the world leader in mobile communications.

Ernie Pilares will again banner the Greenhills I bid in the series which is backed by Alaxan, Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, Pisante golf wear, 357 Boracay, Kaiseki Japanese Cuisine and BJ Marthel International. Greenhills 2 will be skippered by Michael Chan.

Registration starts at 6:30 a.m. with the first flight to tee off at 7:30 a.m., according to tournament coordinator Gary Sevillano.

The Nokia Intervillage will be played next on May 26 at The Orchard for villages in Quezon City.

Giants trample Braves, 9-2

ATLANTA—Both Benito Santiago and Jose Cruz Jr. hit three-run homers and in drove four runs as the San Francisco Giants won their sixth straight game, beating the Atlanta Braves 9-2.

The Giants pulled away from a 3-2 lead in the eighth inning Friday night to win a matchup of the teams with the NL's best records. It was the first time the clubs have met since San Francisco beat the Braves in the first round of last year's playoffs.

Rookie Jesse Foppert (2-2) made his fifth major league start, giving up two runs and five hits in six innings. Greg Maddux (3-4) gave up five hits and three runs in seven innings.

The Atlanta runs came on homers by Chipper Jones and Marcus Giles.

Dodgers 9, Expos 5

In Montreal, Fred McGriff hit his 482nd career homer in the eighth inning after Los Angeles' dominant bullpen blew a four-run lead.

McGriff, who went 3-for-4 with two RBIs, broke a 5-5 tie with his fourth homer of the season, off Scott Stewart (2-1). Guillermo Mota (2-1) got the win despite allowing Brad Wilkerson's tying, two-run single in the seventh.

Los Angeles relievers had allowed just six earned runs for a 0.76 ERA in 71 1-3 innings when left-hander Tom Martin relieved Kevin Brown to begin the seventh inning. But Martin failed to retire any of the four batters he faced as the Expos erased a 5-1 deficit.

Reds 7, Brewers 6

In Cincinnati, Jose Guillen hit a two-run homer in the bottom of the 10th inning, giving Cincinnati a season-high five-game winning streak.

Guillen's homer off Luis Vizcaino (0-2) gave the Reds their 10th victory in their last at-bat. Three of the wins in the streak have come on game-ending homers. *AP*

HOUSTON Astros third baseman Adam Everett (top) leaps over Philadelphia Phillies' Jimmy Rollins (bottom) for the tag in a run down along the third baseline in the fifth inning. The Phillies won, 5-3. AFP

Twins too much for Red Sox

MINNEAPOLIS—Tony Sears hit his first career home run and drove in four runs as the Minnesota Twins blanked Pedro Martinez and the Boston Red Sox 5-0 in the American League on Friday.

Jacque Jones added two hits, scored two runs and drove in the other Twins run as Minnesota chased Martinez after just five innings to win for the ninth time in 10 games.

Johan Santana started in place of the injured Rick Reed and tossed five scoreless innings, allowing four hits with three strikeouts and one walk.

Three relievers finished up to complete the five-hitter.

Cristian Guzman added two hits for the Twins, who scored once in the first and four times in the second off Martinez.

Martinez (3-2) was charged with five runs on eight hits in his five innings while throwing 83 pitches, a season-low. He struck out four and walked one.

Santana (2-0), normally a long reliever, threw 76 pitches in his impressive five inning stint.

Indians 9, Rangers 5

In Arlington, Omar Vizquel had four hits and Matt Lawton homered as the Cleveland Indians beat the Texas Rangers 9-5.

Rafael Palmeiro failed to hit his 500th homer, but did go 2-for-2 with a sacrifice fly, two walks and three RBI. He hit a two-run double in his last at-bat in the bottom of the ninth inning.

Jake Westbrook (2-2) went 6 2/3 innings, allowing two runs on seven hits with two strikeouts and one walk to pick up the win.

John Thomson (2-4) gave up seven runs on eight hits in 2 1/3 innings. Hank Blalock had three hits and drove in a run for Texas.

Orioles 15, 5 Royals 5, 4

In Kansas City, Sidney Ponson pitched seven solid innings to give the Baltimore Orioles a 5-4 win over the Royals, completing a doubleheader sweep.

Complete results:

National League—Arizona 5, Pittsburgh 0; St. Louis 6, Chicago 3; Philadelphia 5, Houston 3; Florida 5, Colorado 4; Cincinnati 7, Milwaukee 6 (10 innings); San Diego 5, NY Mets 4; San Francisco 9, Atlanta 2; Los Angeles 9, Montreal 5.

American League—Minnesota 5, Boston 0; Cleveland 9, Texas 5; Baltimore 15, Kansas City 5 (game one); Baltimore 5, Kansas City 4 (game two); Tampa Bay 2, Detroit 0; Seattle 6, Chicago 3; Oakland 7, NY Yankees 2; Anaheim 6, Toronto 1. *AFP*

Price leads Couples by 1 in Wachovia tilt

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina—Zimbabwe's Nick Price fired a one-under-par 71 in gusting winds to move one stroke clear of the field after the second round of the Wachovia Championship on Friday.

The three-times major winner survived a "scruffy" performance to finish at seven-under 137, one ahead of 1992 US Masters winner Fred Couples, who had shared the overnight lead with Price after both players opened with 66s.

Couples, winner of the Houston Open two weeks ago, carded a level-par 72 to share second place with JP Hayes, whose 66 was the best round of the day.

Reigning US PGA champion Rich Beem also returned a 72 to tie for fourth on 139, level with David Toms (69), Charles Howell III (69), Brandt Jobe (69) and Robert Gamez (67).

"It was a scruffy day for me today, really the best way to describe it," said former world number one Price. "I hit my tee shots solidly, but I just didn't have the accuracy that I had yesterday." Unlike in the first round, players had to contend with southwest winds that gusted up to 20 mph on Friday. After hitting every fairway but one in his opening round, Price hit only eight on Friday.

"I think maybe the wind may have had a little bit to do with that," said the 46-year-old Zimbabwean. "I did hit a lot of good tee shots that hit just off the edge of the fairway."

Although Price needed 27 putts on Friday compared with just 20 in the first round, he felt his success on the greens meant he does not have to challenge pin positions as he bids for the 19th PGA Tour title of his career.

"Tomorrow I'm going to be very focused on trying to drive the ball in the fairway," he said.

"As well as I'm putting from 30 feet, I don't have to play aggressively with my irons, and I don't really have to take any pins on that I don't feel comfortable going at.

"If I have one wish on the weekend, it's to hit 24, 26 fairways. If I can do that on the weekend, I think I'll have a chance. But that's going to be very important." *Reuters*

CENTURY DASH WINNER
American world record holder Tim Montgomery smiles as he finishes first in the men's 100 meters at the IAAF Japan Grand Prix in Osaka's Nagai Stadium yesterday. Montgomery stormed back to his winning ways with a scorching victory in the men's 100 meters with 10.04 seconds for the fastest time in the world this season. AFP

British rookie sets sight on Indy 500 pole position

INDIANAPOLIS—British rookie Dan Wheldon is on track to take pole position for the Indianapolis 500 when qualifying begins on Saturday after becoming the first driver to lap at over 230 mph during practice.

The 24-year-old Englishman turned a 231.108 mph practice lap at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Tuesday, and then upped that two days later with a 232.202 mph circuit driving a Dallara/Honda.

"Man, my mother would kill me if she knew I was going this fast! I got lucky again, I guess," Wheldon told reporters at a trackside conference room.

"I was running behind Scott Sharp (giving him an aerodynamic tow) when that lap actually came about. Again, it's really nothing to get excited about when you get one of these laps. It's fast, really fast. But it's definitely not that fast, probably not even close to that.

"But if I can pull this off on Saturday, I'll be really popular. Obviously, I'm going to have (teammates) Tony (Kanaan) and Michael (Andretti) pushing me hard, which will be interesting."

The 87th Indianapolis 500 takes place on May 25.

Second fastest in practice with 232.007 mph was Japan's Tora Takagi, a former Formula One driver, while Brazil's Helio Castroneves was third at 231.595 mph.

Gil de Ferran, the two-time Cart champion, was fourth quickest at 231.567 mph, stock car driver Robby Gordon was fifth at 231.362 and another Brazilian, Kanaan, was next best at at 231.061 mph.

Twelve drivers in 15 cars had speeds over 230 mph.

Wheldon's lap on Thursday was the fastest at the historic, 2.5-mile oval since the last turbocharged cars competed at Indy in 1996.

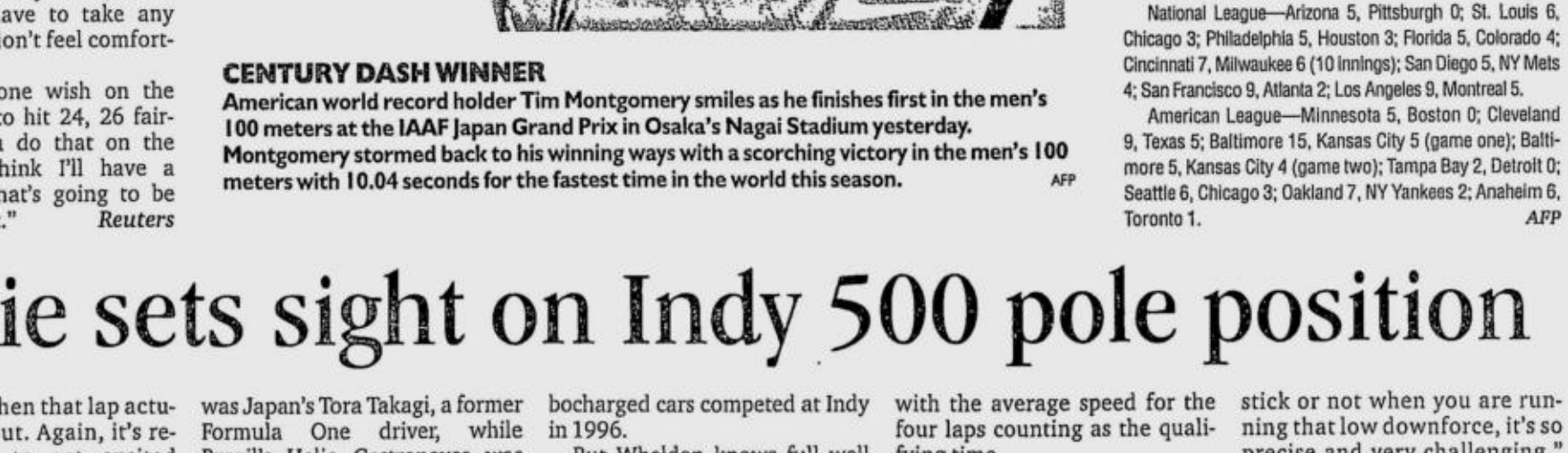
But Wheldon knows full well that speeds with a tow are inflated compared to running alone, which are the conditions during race qualifying.

Under the Indy's unique rules, drivers take a single car over four-lap, 10-mile runs to qualify, with the average speed for the four laps counting as the qualifying time.

"When you prepare for qualifying now, it is the most mentally challenging thing you can possibly do in motor racing," said Sweden's Kenny Brack, the 1999 Indy 500 winner.

"The amount of effort it takes to go into turn one flat, you don't know if it's going to stick or not when you are running that low downforce, it's so precise and very challenging." Roger Penske, who is chasing an unprecedented 13th win with Penske Racing at the Indy, cannot afford to be complacent about qualifying.

After his drivers obliterated all the competition in 1994, he suffered the ignominy of failing to put a single car in the race the following year. *Reuters*



BRAZILIAN driver Helio Castroneves of Team Penske drives a ceremonial lap in the car he won the 2001 Indianapolis 500 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Saturday. REUTERS

SPORTS noodle

Answers from page A0

1. True
2. 11
3. 8
4. 42.195
5. 57
6. 200. Each lap is 2.5 miles and the entire race is 500 miles long.
7. 336. In England, it's 330; today, golf balls can have 300-500 dimples.

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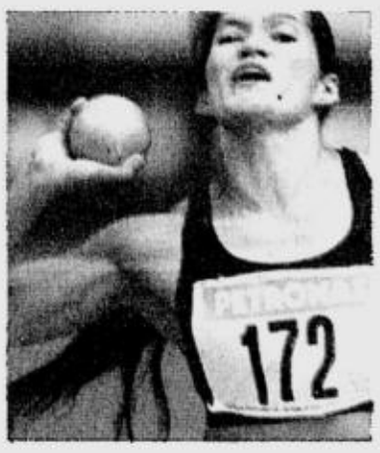
Edwin M. Villanueva

Mama Elma

MUROS (left photos) at the height of her athletic career and 5-months pregnant above.
ERNIE U. SARMIENTO/PDI PHOTOS

Ex-track star aims high for another big triumph



By Marc Anthony Reyes

NOW that Elma Muros is through making the country proud in the athletic scene, she aims to score another victory in a personal, therefore, more important domain-- family life.

A pregnant Muros showed up during the Milo national track and field open championships beaming over her promising proteges, including that potential champion inside her womb.

"He will turn six months this June," proudly explained Muros while stroking her tummy.

Through the magic of ultrasound, she and her husband-coach Jojo were able to determine the baby's gender.

It will be the second for the couple, who has a daughter, Klarrizze, at 10 years old already running the century dash in 17 seconds flat.

Klarrizze was born in 1993 at the height of Muros' dominance in the sport. "She is in Grade 5 at Brent School," quipped Muros, adding that her daughter has that natural inclination to track and field. "I hope our boy will also like sports."

She said she could not ask for more in life.

"The blessings are coming one after another," said the 36-year-old legend who has amassed 15 gold medals in the Southeast Asian Games alone.

After retiring from competition two years ago, Muros said she is now toiling to repay the sports which has made her a household name.

"One way of doing it is by developing new athletes who will eventually represent the country in international competitions," said Muros, who now coaches the UAAP athletics champion University of the East.

Among her heir apparent are National Open gold winners Mary Grace Melgar in hurdles and middle distance; Percela Molina in jumping and heptathlon; Julie Rose Forbes in hurdles; and Maricel Sibog in jumping.

Muros swore that all of them have the potential to fill in her shoes. They all got the height, the built and the skills.

Whether they have Muros' cutting-edge talent, however, remains to be seen.

For one, Muros is known for her versatility, having won eight golds in long jump, two in heptathlon, two in 100m hurdles and one each in 400m, 200m and 100m.

"I don't want to think that I'm the best, because I know that someday, with proper guidance, somebody will come out and break all the records I have made," said Muros.

Right after winning the SEAG heptathlon gold in Kuala Lumpur in 2001, Muros has been busy helping her husband scour the provinces for fresh talents which they hope to shape into world-class athletes.

But her busy schedule is not without risk. Last Holy Week, she suffered bleeding after a long, tiring day in the training camp.

"I got very scared and checked into the hospital right away," said Muros. "Sometimes I forget that I am pregnant. But after that, I realized that I should be careful and take it easy."

In a way, that's what Mama Elma is doing, as the country's running queen makes a final detour to motherhood.

Blu Star, Viva subdue PBL opponents

GAMES TUESDAY *(Pasig Sports Center)*
2 p.m.--ICTSI vs Nutri-licious
4 p.m.--Welcoat vs LBC

By Dennis U. Eroa

IT WASN'T a championship game, but when the final buzzer sounded, Blu Star Detergent celebrated as if it won the game of its life yesterday in the Sunkist PBL-Unity Cup at the Pasig Sports Center.

Blu walloped rival Nutri-licious, 85-56, to snap a six-game losing streak.

The Detergent Kings, which started with a 3-1 record, gained the dubious tag of having the league's worst record at the end of the eliminations with a 3-7 mark.

Owing to its pre-season manpower buildup which included the acquisition of veterans Ruel Buenaventura and Roland Pascual, Blu was picked as one of the title favorites, but suddenly lost its deadly form.

In the other game, Viva Mineral Water outlasted Welcoat, 68-64 in overtime. Viva needs to beat LBC-Batangas in order to gain the top spot in Pool A and the twice to beat edge which goes with it.

"It seemed we were put under a trance. Losing six straight games seemed unthinkable. But I'm glad the true character of the team surfaced today," said a relieved team manager Sam Ancheta as he whooped it up with his wards.

The 6-foot-3 Pascual joined hands with Randy Lopez and Lou Gatumbato as the Detergent Kings broke away in the third period, 53-40.

To the surprise of the sizeable weekend crowd, Nutri-licious was unable to put up a decent defense against Blu. With big men Nelbert Omolon, Efren Valdez and Ervin Sotto failing to operate, the Juicers tried but failed to find their touch from the outside.

Scores:

BLU 85--Pascual 22, Dela Cuesta 16, Lopez 12, Gatumbato 9, Taguines 8, Garcia 8, Mendez 8, Prior 2, Gamboa 0.

NUTRI-LICIOUS 56--Lanete 12, Junio 11, Sotto 10, Omolon 10, Daep 5, Cordero 3, Valdez 3, Federiso 2, Malonso 0, Rivera 0.

Quarters: 17-14, 33-24, 53-40, 85-56.

Ferrero, Federer advance

ROME--Second seed Juan Carlos Ferrero and fourth seed Roger Federer set up a semifinal showdown in contrasting style at the Rome Masters on Friday.

While Ferrero cruised to a 6-4, 6-4 victory over Germany's Rainer Schuettler in his quarter-final match, Federer dropped a set for the first time in his last nine claycourt matches before beating home favorite Filippo Volandri 6-3, 5-7, 6-2.

The winner of their match will face either Russia's Yevgeny Kafelnikov, who beat Martin Verkerk 6-3, 7-5, or Felix Mantilla, who defeated Ivan Ljubicic 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Kafelnikov and Mantilla are attempting to become the first unseeded player to win the Rome tournament since the open era began in 1968.

Federer looked shaky at the start of his match against Volandri, mistiming a series of backhands to drop serve in the third game before he broke back immediately and capitalized on the Italian's mistakes to wrap up the first set in 36 minutes. *Reuters*

Right wrist injury cools off Jenny

By Jong Arcano

JUST when everything seems to be going right for her in the LPGA Tour, Jenny Rosales ran into a big snag.

Rosales reportedly suffered a strained tendon in her right wrist that had to be placed in a cast and doctors at the Augusta Medical Center in South Carolina are still evaluating the extent of the injury.

The injury forced Rosales to withdraw at the last minute from the ongoing Asahi Ryokuken tournament.

Rosales was to obtain the final recommendations from her attending physician yesterday before flying back to Los Angeles for her scheduled break.

Rosales didn't have any idea when she'll be allowed to swing the club again but was already told to get ready for a series of therapy sessions.

After this week's event, the LPGA will take a break then moves to New York for the Corning Classic on May 22-25. The season's second major, the McDonald's championship, in Wilmington, Delaware, is scheduled two weeks later.

Before the injury, Rosales was among the hottest players on the tour with three top-10 finishes in six starts. She posted her best showing so far this season of seventh place last week in the Michelob Light Open in Virginia, moving up to 23rd in the money list with winnings of $115,961.

Her swing coach Bong Lopez was prety sure the injury was not that serious: "It's an old problem that's been bugging her, I think the therapy will solve it."

Meanwhile, chances of a first American victory in the LPGA in almost nine months grew when Rosie Jones and Wendy Ward took the frontrunning positions in the Asahi Ryokuken International Championship at the Mount Vintage Plantation Golf Club.

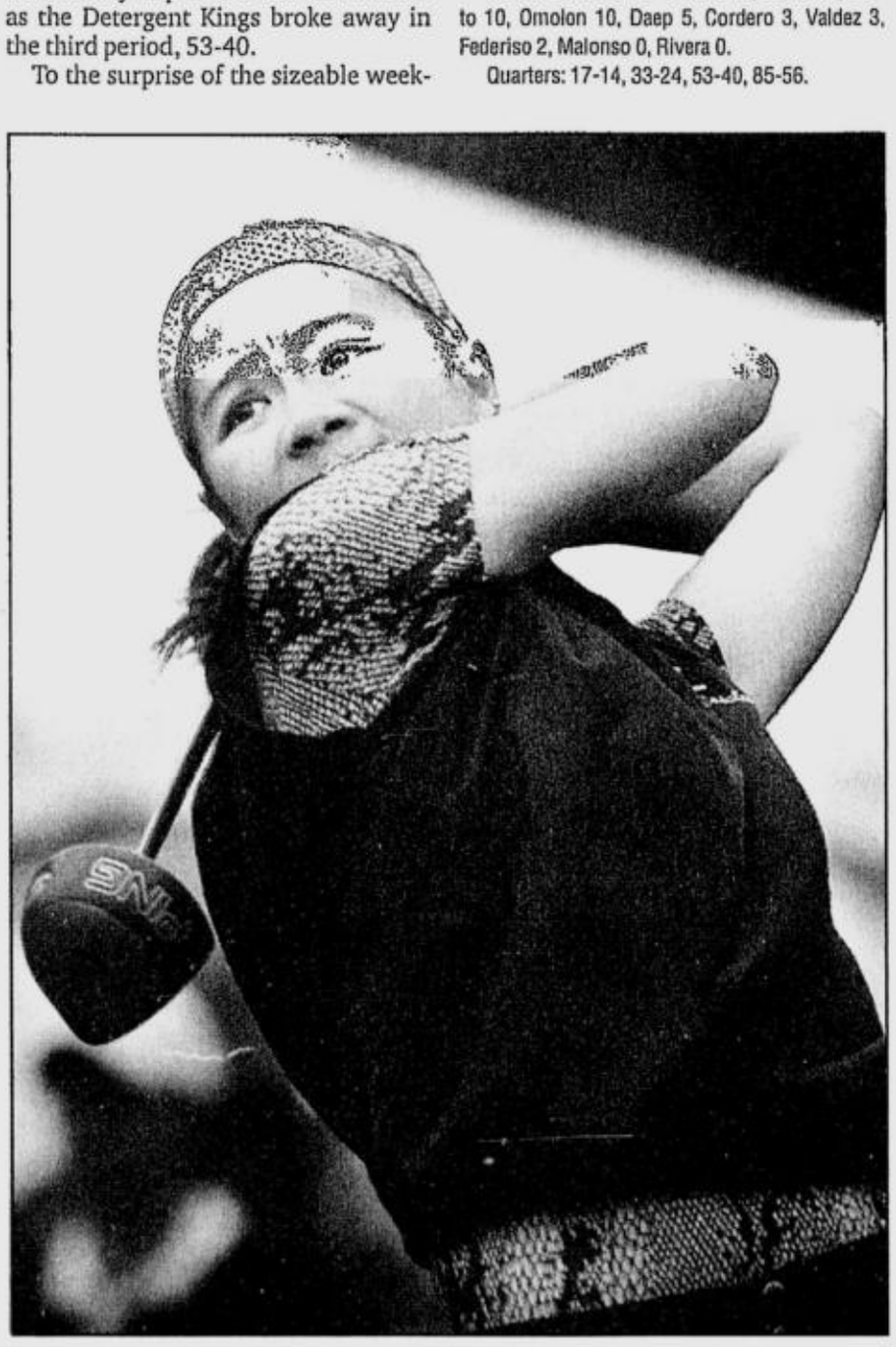
Jones fired a 68 to lead Ward by one with her 134 total. Ward shot a 67.

Meg Mallon was the last American winner in Aug. 18, 2002.The first seven winners this season had been foreigners.

Fil-Am Dorothy Delasin could only match par 72 and slid to a share of 14th from eighth, seven shots back at 141.

Like Jones, Ward is winless since 2001. Ward has finished no better than 39th and missed the cut thrice already.

In Shizuoka, Japan, Frankie Minoza shot a 72 but was still far behind in 55th place in the Fujisankei Classic at the Kawana Hotel Golf Club. Minoza had a 218 aggregate through 54 holes, far off the pacesetting Todd Hamilton of the US whose 65-202 pushed him ahead by four over local bet Shigeru Nonaka.



ROSALES: Old problem. REUTERS

Clijsters faces Capriati anew

BERLIN--Kim Clijsters and Jennifer Capriati cruised through to the German Open semifinals on Friday and will face each other in a repeat of their memorable 2001 French Open final.

Defending champion Justine Henin-Hardenne and Amelie Mauresmo of France also advanced to meet in the other semifinal on Saturday.

Top seed Clijsters of Belgium was the more impressive of the four on a miserable day with occasional drizzle, brushing aside seventh seed Daniela Hantuchova of Slovakia 6-0, 6-3.

Former world number one Capriati, seeded fourth and playing her first tournament of the year on the red clay of Europe, also looked comfortable in her 6-3, 6-3 win over unseeded Russian Elena Likhovtseva. *Reuters*

SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2003 PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

B1

E-mail: pr_business@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday BIZ

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

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'I didn't have to work a day in my life'

Says Loren Legarda's 'automatic toothpaste dispenser'

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

HE now has the reputation of using his wife's position to propagate his wide business interests.

But J. Antonio Leviste, a realtor turned politician who nows sits as chair of the Philippine Retirement Authority, says people forget "I was already Tony Leviste even before Loren Legarda."

FIRST JOB

Right now he is building his dream house near the shores of Taal Lake—"a house of such magnitude and design that nobody will want it."

He says this will be his monastery where he will retire when, and if Loren, the Senate majority leader, runs and wins higher office.

"I will not be high profile, nor low profile, I will have no profile," he says of the possibility that his wife will eventually gun for the presidency of the Philippines.

The desire to build a palatial home "with a long driveway, a cavernous living room like the lobby of the Manila Peninsula, a courtyard like San Agustin's and a turret so everyone could see you and you could see everyone" comes from the fact that Leviste has no ancestral home.

He says his grandparents acquired huge tracts of land in Batangas before and after World War II. But while they built a house in Malvar, Batangas, this was burned during the war and the land donated to the local government where the municipal office now stands.

His father, being in the real estate business, would sell even his own house such that during his childhood, he moved 15 times. (But today he says he has lived in the same address in Makati for the past 20 years.)

TONY'S car was an Impala which he swapped for a house along Zobel Roxas (that got eaten up by the highway).

J. ANTONIO Leviste and Sen. Loren

Leviste and his twin Conrad, and two sisters, still own several properties all over the country. Tony owns Fortune Island and during one of their anniversaries gifted Loren with her own island which is called Lorelie.

First income

Leviste admits he was born "to a family where I didn't have to work a day of my life but I have been working everyday of my life."

And he says this is the work ethic his father gave to him and his brother.

Fifty years ago, Leviste was a young student at De La Salle University along Taft Avenue. His classmates included Dewey Dee, Ramon Orosa, Behn Cervantes, Fritz Infante, Tony Gana, Ignacio Ortigas.

At the age of 8, Leviste says he already earned his first few pesos—by selling iron-on stickers of Captain Marvel and Superman on installment basis to his classmates.

CONRAD and Tony with dad Lauro.

He admits he did not always get paid but he did not have any capital anyway as he only got the stuff from his mother's grocery which sold PX goods from the GIs who were still around Manila.

Perhaps it was the influence of his father who was always buried in work or his mother, who was also earning her own keep, that instilled the entrepreneurial spirit in him.

Other than selling some of his mom's goods, Leviste also went out with a group of friends with shoe shine boxes and went around the Palanan area in Makati peddling their services. Other times he would go out and sell ice drop although he would not always have any sale.

He recalls that one time, he had no sale at all and was on his way home when he came across a

I DIDN'T/ B2

*Ghia MT base model **Optional

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La Paz diversifies to fruity halo-halo

Text and photos
by Ma. Diosa Labiste
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—They are selling "halo-halo" like the popular "batchoy" at the public market of La Paz.

Like batchoy, the halo-halo is sold in a bowl and branded as regular, special and super special, depending on one's appetite or ability to pay.

Halo-halo is cool mix of food tidbits sold in the market. A bowl has slices of watermelons, melons, cantaloupes, papaya and avocado, creamy ube jam, translucent sago, tidbits of pineapples, slivers of young coconut meat, bits of corn, cubes of boiled bananas and camote, candied kaong and nata de coco, that are served with crushed ice and topped with evaporated milk.

WOMEN at Marilyn's halo-halo stand: Marilyn Depedro (extreme left), daughter Rosario (second from right) and her daughters

La Paz market's summer halo-halo is a pleasant culinary counterpoint to batchoy, which is extremely popular during the rainy season. The latter is a steaming dish of noodles topped with slivers of pork and internal organs and sprinkled with toasted garlic and crushed pork cracklings.

Unlike batchoy, which is an enduring dish that has sealed La Paz' reputation as the home of original batchoy, halo-halo became part of the market's menu only a little more than a decade ago. But the popularity of La Paz halo-halo is growing.

Aileen, who refused to give her surname, brought five of her friends to Nida's, a halo-halo stand, in the early afternoon of April 8. Aileen said she used to come to La Paz market for a halo-halo when she was studying in college. Whenever she craves for halo-halo, she drops by at Nida's to have a bowl.

Distinct taste

It was the first time for Aileen's friends to taste La Paz market halo-halo but they were easily pleased.

"It has a tropical flavor, what a halo-halo should be. It has more native fruits and really worth its price," they said.

La Paz market's halo-halo tastes different from the halo-halo sold in fast-food chains or malls here. It has none of that bottled candied beans that come in different colors. It also has none of that fancy cherry balancing at the top of the tall frosted glass. It doesn't even have a scoop of ice cream.

What it has are bits and cubes of colors from a variety of fruits. The crunch is courtesy of the cornflakes and crushed roasted peanuts in lieu of fragrant pinipig that is not always available.

Rosario de Pedro, who runs Marilyn halo-halo stand, says her customers do not like candied beans.

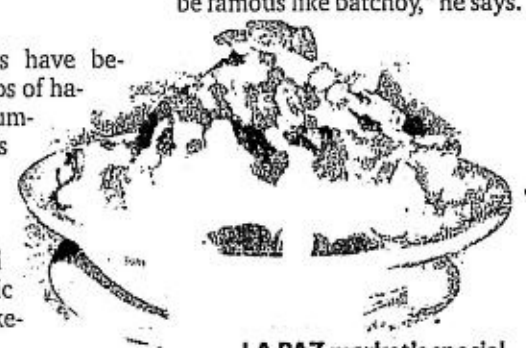
"They said it's bad for arthritis. But who needs beans when there are always fruits available all year round?" she said.

Nida's and Marilyn's are among the five original halo-halo stalls at La Paz market. The others are Alice, Opong and 5 Js. They used to hold fort inside the market, facing the fish, meat and vegetables sections.

When the market was renovated in 1992, the halo-halo stalls were transferred outside, facing the road, a move that made La Paz halo-halo noticeable to passers-by.

Take home

Today, the stalls have become the usual stops of halo-halo lovers, a number of whom calls the stall owners by their first names. Some customers would come and bring along plastic containers for take-home halo-halo.



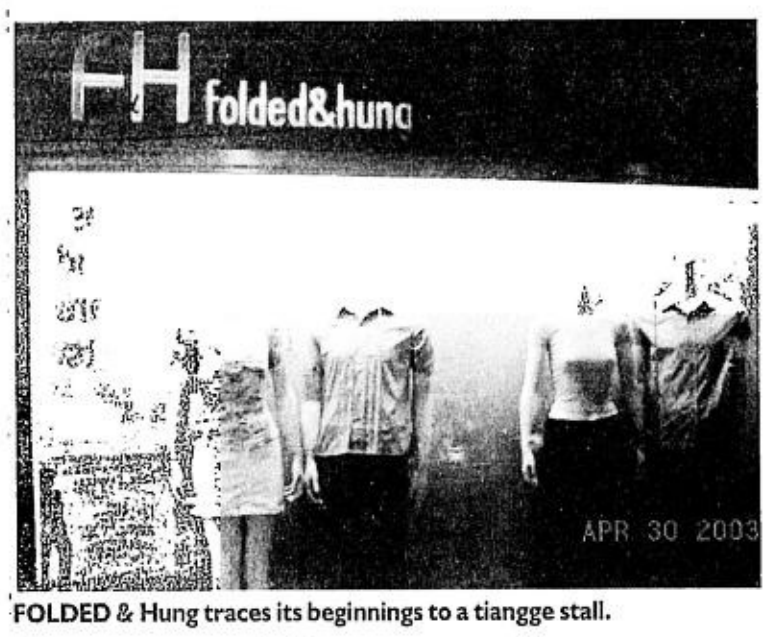
LA PAZ market's special halo-halo

During summer, each stall sells at least 250 to 300 bowls while on rainy days, it would be about 50 bowls. A regular halo-halo is at P15; special, P20; and super special P25. The difference lies in the size of the bowl and the ingredients. Despite the sizes of the bowls, the taste is the same.

Aside from using the fruits in season for halo-halo, another secret of La Paz halo-halo is the use of shaved ice, not the crushed ice bought at the ice factory. The blade of a manual ice shaver is so adjusted to produce fine ice flakes. The customer can enjoy the fruits and not chew clumps of ice.

Edgar Padilla, who manages Nida's halo-halo stall, predicts that La Paz halo-halo may go the way of La Paz batchoy, which is a popular Ilonggo food.

"Someday our halo-halo would be famous like batchoy," he says.



FOLDED & Hung traces its beginnings to a tiangge stall.

Competitive retailers . . .

From page B3

furniture and home accent pieces in Greenhills.

Cajuday says he believes that customers regularly go to Greenhills because the entrepreneurs are always willing to give them a good deal. For an earnest payment of as low as P1,000, Cajuday says he and other furniture store operators like him, are already willing to do their orders.

Soria, on the other hand, adds that they may have small outlets but because of the quality of the buyers, they get a number of big orders for custom-made furniture and novelty items.

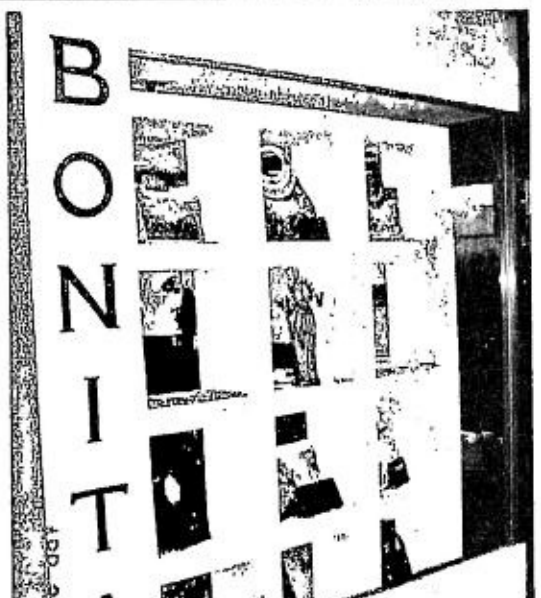
Since 2001, Ortigas and Co. Ltd. embarked on a close to P1-billion project to renovate the center and bring it up to the level enjoyed by the more modern shopping centers in the country.

After completing the renovations of Shoppesville, Virra Mall and the Greenhills Theater, shops will also be set up such as a a center for high-end shops called "The Shops", a new Jewelry Exchange to house 50 of the country's top jewelers and "The Promenade" for a new row of restaurants and two more cinemas.

Rex Drilon II, chief operating officer of Ortigas and Co. Ltd., however, stresses that these renovations and improvements would not change the character of Greenhills. It will remain a tiangge haven although with more air conditioning and improved surroundings.

"The real strength behind Greenhills is its merchants. We are proud of the fact that we are a shopping center that does not discriminate against race or religion or social class. Here we see Muslims and Filipinos, the rich and the poor shopping together and merchants doing well. We like to think that we are an incubator of successful businesses," Drilon says.

GREENHILLS Shopping Center is spending close to P1B for renovations.



BONITA, one of Greenhills' tenants that made good

'I didn't have to work a day in my life'

From page B1

family picking mangoes from the trees in their backyard. He says he knew his mothers and sisters liked mangoes so he traded his ice drop for the fruits.

Summers would find his entire clan in the "mother farm" in Batangas which was planted to citrus fruits—oranges of different varieties.

He says during the war his grandparents, Julio and Rufina Leviste, planted the farm with oranges and other citrus fruits.

"After the war they had a good business selling the oranges," he says.

During vacations, he says while his cousins would get the fruits to send off to their classmates, he would pick them, and sell these at the Lipa market at half the price of what the vendors would usually buy it for.

He says when his grandmother saw the yields of the farm, they bought more land.

He says theirs was the only farm that yielded citrus. The others were planted with sugar and coffee.

From the time he and his twin, Conrad, were eight, they would be brought to their father's office, the LP Leviste and Co. Inc. in Escolta and did their homework there.

Saturdays however they were required to work as messengers and got P2.50 a day.

Leviste recalls that one time he was asked to do a check using a check writer. He wasted 10 checks without getting it right and went home for fear that his father would get mad at him.

At 15, he and Conrad were participants to the 8th World Jamboree of the Boy Scouts in Canada.

After the jamboree, the twins decided to finish high school in New York.

After high school at the Forest Hills High School, they decided to go to New York University for college. Tony took Associate in Arts for two years.

"I got all the real estate electives. I did not want to study for four years," Leviste says.

After two years, he joined Western Union as a messenger.

"I was thrilled to deliver goods and wait for the tip, always hoping that a lady would open the door," he says.

Conrad had to go home after one semester at NYU because his father got sick.

When Leviste went home, he and his brother had to take over the business as his father decided to retire in Spain.

Lyceum of the Philippines, being walking distance from the office, and their father being a stockholder, they decided to finish their college there.

And so at 19, the twins took over the real estate empire of their father, Lauro, which specialized in Makati properties for a long time. Thus the Ayalas changed Alfaro Street to L.P. Leviste in honor of their dad.

Tony was awarded realtor of the year by the Business Writers Association of the Philippines in 1962, at 22.

He also trained to be a real estate appraiser and would get paid P5,000 to P10,000 per appraisal.

Conrad focused more on deals and his brother says he was really good at making money.

In 1973, he was voted Ten Outstanding Young Men of the Philippines for Public Administration by the Junior Chamber of Comerce of the Philippines.

"One of the secrets of my success and happiness is that I have a soul mate. First it was Conrad who was my soul mate from birth up to when we were 40 years old; and then Loren," he says.

Entering politics

The brothers, who had been business partners for over a decade, parted ways. Tony decided to go full blast into politics.

Each set up their own company. Tony still has his Jalco Group of Cos. Inc.

PICKING the oranges at the mother farm with Lola Rufina, Tony's siblings and cousins.

FIRST Holy Communion at eight.

TWINS Tony and Conrad Leviste took over their father's firm at 19.

WITH then US Vice President Richard Nixon in New York during the World Scouting Day.

WITH Richard Curtiss, then president of the Real Estate Board of New York.

At 31, he ran for the vice governorship of Batangas and won. (He eventually became governor). Martial law was declared soon after and he says Marcos then was giving orders direct to the governors. His wife and their three daughters left for the US when martial law was declared and that marked his separation from Celia Sarangaya.

He says he sought Loren, after seeing her on TV in 1986. The following year they got married in three ceremonies—Las Vegas, Muslim rites and a "conscience marriage" by a Catholic priest.

Leviste denies he became a Muslim to be able to marry Loren. He says he converted in 1985 when he got to know their culture and his ancestry.

According to Leviste his ancestors were the first Muslim settlers in Luzon having settled in Balayan.

He says last year he went to the Haj upon the invitation of the King of Saudi Arabia.

He says he is a "monogamous Muslim."

He has two sons with the senator. Leviste adds Loren will never leave him because she has an ATD "automatic toothpaste dispenser" in him.

"We have separate bathrooms and every morning instead of an I love you, I put toothpaste on her toothbrush," he says.

He also works hard to keep fit, reverting to soup and salad when the scale tips 147. "I keep fit because I will be leaving a young, beautiful, rich widow."

AT 21, he gives a talk to the members of the Philippine Marketing Association.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

NOVELTY items are among the sought after goods sold in the tiangge.

GREENHILLS has become the place to go for pearls.

CLOTHES have always been a crowd drawer.

DECADES OLD GREENHILLS THRIVES

Competitive retailers grew up in the same place

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

RETAIL giants Bayo, Kamiseta, Toby's, Bench, Ricky Reyes, Folded & Hung, Gift Gate, Odyssey, Alberto, Astro Vision, Plains & Prints and Celine have another thing in common aside from being among the market leaders in their respective fields.

They all started as small shops in the crowded marketplace that is the Greenhills Shopping Center, a shopping mecca for bargain hunters since the early 1970s when Virra Mall and Shoppesville, Manilabank, PCIB, Padilla and Crossroads arcades first opened their wide doors to the public.

Many shopping centers have cropped up since then and Greenhills admittedly lost some of its buyers and tenants to the new centers such as Makati and Ortigas, but most of the big names have stayed in because they believe that it is still there where the buyers come to spend their money.

90,000 shoppers

A market study shows that Greenhills is visited by an average of 90,000 shoppers a day and they stay for a few hours to buy and to eat. More than half of the shoppers are women. About 80 percent of the shoppers are between 15 and 39 years old and over half belong to the A, B and C socio-economic classes.

Ronald V. Pineda, president and founder of F&H says in an interview that Greenhills possesses a certain kind of "magic" that makes him want to stay in the area.

He says the profile of the shoppers in Greenhills is quite different from other areas because they come to buy, and not just to pass away a few hours in an air-conditioned area.

"I am proud to say that I started here and I will not exchange my loyalty here. I think Greenhills works because of its zoning and tenant mix," Pineda says.

Bonita Dabu, who with partner Lucille Clemente operates six Bonita boutiques in Metro Manila, echoes Pineda's view.

Dabu says that Greenhills has been very good to her and she attaches a sentimental value to the place because it was here where she started her chain from just a 10-square-meter outlet in 1992.

Big buyers

Greenhills buyers, however, come not just to patronize the same stores that they see in the big malls, but to take advantage of the variety of goods sold by the more than 2,000 entrepreneurs that have set up shop in Greenhills with its famous tiangge or flea market.

These entrepreneurs may not operate at the same scale as Bench or Gift Gate, but they are no less successful. Examples are the pearl traders from Mindanao who have come together in Greenhills, making it the Pearl Center of the Philippines.

It is estimated that over 90 percent of all South Sea pearls sold in the Philippines go through Greenhills, with prices lower by as much as 50 percent than those sold in the more famous jewelry shops in other malls.

The well-heeled ladies from Forbes Park and Dasmarinas Village and the wives of the ambassadors are just some of the people who come over to look at the pearls.

Even Queen Sofia of Spain came over to buy herself a set. Amerah Marmar of Amerah Jewelry and Ainah Mariano of Pinamily Jewelry were two of the first seven jewelry merchants who set up shop in Greenhills. She says she actually started selling to the joggers who frequented the area. In 1993, she leased a small 2 X 2 square meter stand and in 10 years saw the growth of the center from just seven merchants to over 240 with a dedicated Pearls Center in the refurbished mall.

BARGAIN hunters flock to Greenhills because of the low prices of the goods such as those sold by Terra Coti.

Norhaya Sarip of Haya Pearls and Khair D. Sacar of Norhaya are two other Muslim traders in the Pearl Center. They say that competition among them is fierce but friendly, and the customers benefit by way of low prices.

Sacar explains that the traders mostly come from Marawi City in Lanao del Sur and many of them started with just a small 2 X 2 square meter stand, but as Greenhills' reputation in the pearl trade grew, their numbers grew as well.

Family members were enticed to join them in their trade and before they knew it the Pearls Center has become one of the main attractions of the shopping center.

Another attraction is the houseware and furniture area, which has also attracted many first-time entrepreneurs to try their luck in business at the shopping center.

One of these is Benjie Tan, a medical technologist by profession, who used to be a shopper of Greenhills. He saw how well the tenants were doing that he was encouraged to rent his own stall in December 1994 during one of the Christmas bazaars.

He did so well during his first try that he decided to go into it full time, leaving his other business of selling ready-to-wear clothing to his sister. His Terra Cotti is now part of the furniture center of Greenhills and has no plans of going somewhere else.

Furniture Haven

Roland Cajuday of Bonodeco Furnishing and Novelty Design and Annabelle Soria of Ritzmon Novelties are two other entrepreneurs selling

COMPETITIVE/ B2

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NOTICE OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Philippine National Bank will be held on May 27, 2003 at 8:00 a.m. at the Ballroom, Upper Lobby, Century Park Hotel, 599 Pablo Ocampo Sr. St., Malate, Manila.

The Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Secretary's Proof of Notice and Quorum
3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2002 Annual Stockholders' Meeting held on June 25, 2002
4. Report of the President on the Results of Operations for the Year 2002
5. Approval of the 2002 Annual Report
6. Ratification of All Acts and Proceedings of the Board of Directors and Corporate Officers since the 2002 Annual Stockholders' Meeting
7. Election of Directors
8. Appointment of External Auditor
9. Other Matters
10. Adjournment

Minutes of the 2002 Annual Stockholders' Meeting as well as resolutions of the Board of Directors from June 26, 2002 will be available for examination during office hours at the Office of the Corporate Secretary.

Only stockholders of record as of April 28, 2003 will be entitled to vote at this meeting.

If you cannot personally attend the meeting, you may designate your authorized representative by submitting a PROXY to the Office of the Corporate Secretary not later than 5:00 p.m. on May 22, 2003. A Proxy shall conform with the requirements of Sec. 58 of the Corporation Code, and shall be affixed with a duly paid documentary stamp tax in accordance of Sec. 192 of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997.

Pasay City, March 21, 2003

RENATO J. FERNANDEZ
Corporate Secretary

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
CENTRAL OFFICE BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

Office of the Secretary

RE-INVITATION FOR BIDS

IFB No. ICHSP-2003-004HP

1. The Government of the Philippines through the Department of Health has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of Integrated Community Health Services Project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for the Supply and Delivery of Health Promotion Equipment.
2. The Department of Health, now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery of Health Promotion Equipment briefly described as follows:

Item No.	Name of Goods or Related Services	Quantity
1.	Digital Camcorder	1
2.	CD Duplicator	1
3.	Laser Printer	1
4.	Large Format Printer	1
5.	Postcript Printer	1
6.	Slide Scanner	1
7.	Zip Drive	5
8.	Camera Lighting System	1
9.	Interactive Desktop Publishing	5
10.	Multimedia Projection System	2

3. The schedule of bid activities are as follows:

Activity	Date	Time	Venue
Issuance of Bid Documents	May 12 to 19, 2003	8:00-5:00	Procurement and Logistics Service
Deadline for Submission of Bids	May 20, 2003	9:00 AM	MMD Conference Room, Bldg. 25, San Lazaro Compd.
Bid Opening	May 20, 2003	9:01 AM	

4. International Shopping will be conducted in accordance with ADB's procurement guidelines and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries.
5. A bidder may bid for any item, combination of items or all items.
6. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Document at the following addresses:
   COBAC Secretariat
   Procurement and Logistics Service
   Bldg. 26, San Lazaro Compound
   Department of Health
   Sta. Cruz, Manila
7. The Bidding Document, in the English language, may be purchased by interested Bidders at the address above or on submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00) in cash or ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (US$100.00) plus mailing fee of US$50 in the form of bank draft. Documents for overseas delivery shall be sent by surface mail or courier. No liability will be accepted for loss of late delivery.
8. Bids must be delivered to the following address on or before the scheduled deadline of submission of bids.
   The Chairperson
   Central Office Bids and Awards Committee
   Department of Health
   Ground Floor, Building No. 1
   Rizal Avenue, Manila
9. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the amount of not less than Two Percent (2%) of the Total Bid Price. Prior to the Bid Opening, a Pre-Bid Conference will be held on the scheduled date at the venue above.
10. The Department of Health will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of Bids.
11. In the comparison of Bids, ADB's Domestic Preference scheme will be applied in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the Instruction to Bidders.
12. The Department of Health reserves the right to reject any or all bids without disclosing any reason, to waive any minor defects or infirmities therein and to accept such bid as may be considered advantageous to the DOH and to local health units.

(Sgd.) ALEXANDER A. PADILLA
Undersecretary of Health
Chairperson, COBAC

(PDI – May 11 & 18, 2003)

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS WANTED

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A Public Listed Company in Malaysia is seeking alliances and/or partners in the Philippines. Allies should be a private, public, or government organization with the network to support degree-driven education: an entrepreneur; college; university; government body; training, or in-house corporate center.

Responsibilities would be to promote and manage a broad range of internationally recognized and accredited educational programs. The market consists of high school, college students, adult career professionals, international organizations, local businesses, etc. Student-support formats include in-class, distance-education, and e-learning modes of delivery.

The portfolio of programs covers diverse and highly sought after disciplines including: Business (Accounting, Finance, Management, Marketing); Engineering; Computing/ICT; Multi Media; Art & Design; Early Childhood Development, etc.

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For more information, please send complete organizational details including: organization's name and address; areas of interest, expertise; related competencies; contact person and details to:

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MISCELLANEOUS - Beaver Mill Vertical Miller; Stainless Steel Storage Tanks; A Large Qty. Of Electric Motors; A Large Qty. of Stainless Steel Scraps, etc.

On: Friday 16th May 2003 – 2:00pm
On View: Friday 16th May 2003 from 9:00am to 2:00pm
Location: Goya, Inc. - Marikina Factory, No. 23 M. Tuazon Street, Parang, Marikina City 1800 Philippines
Refundable Deposit: (Php30,000) Upon Registration

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The property may be inspected at the Main Disposal warehouse and the Old Commissary, Seafront Compound, US Embassy, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City on May 12 to 14, 2003 from 8:00 am to 11:30 am and 1:00 to 3:30 pm. Bids, accompanied by a cash deposit of at least 20% of the bid price, will be accepted during the inspection dates at the GSO Cashier located at Seafront Compound.

Please be advised that there is no vehicle access or parking available at the Seafront Compound. Pedestrian access will be limited to the Roxas Boulevard gate only.

For particulars, please contact:

Ms. Hilda M. Legaspi
Tel. No. 523-1001 ext. 2702

(PDI–May 10 & 11, 2003)

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- With at least 1 year experience in bookkeeping.

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67 P. Tuazon Blvd. Cubao, Quezon City.
Bring Resume and other Credentials

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- Graduate of any Engineering course
- With/Without sales experience
- Familiar with Metro Manila area
- Willing to do field works

DELIVERY DRIVER
- 20-26 years old
- With licensed 1 & 2
- Familiar with Metro Manila area

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- Graduate of Computer Engineering or ECE
- Must have 1-2 years experience in computer networking
- Proficient with E-mail and Internet Administration
- Knowledge in Windows NT 4/2000

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- Administers E-mail and Internet clients on Linux Server
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- Troubleshoots complex network and infrastructures issues
- Performs network cabling, termination, testing and installation of Network interface cards
- Maintains, configures and upgrades Windows NT 4/2000

CIRCULATION FIELDMAN
Qualifications:
- Graduate of any Business Course
- With excellent customer relations skills
- Familiar with the street network of Metro Manila

Responsibilities:
- Shall visit and monitor agents' sales performance
- Handles inquiries and complaints of agents

BILLING CLERK
Qualifications:
- College graduate with background in Accounting or Finance
- 1 year experience in similar field

Responsibilities:
- Responsible for the preparation of advertising tearsheets and attachment of same with advertising invoices

LIFESTYLE REPORTER
Qualifications:
- College graduate preferably major in Journalism or Mass Communication.
- Must have at least 3 years experience in writing articles related to Lifestyle areas such as: Arts and Culture, Food, Fitness, Fashion, Home and Design, and Family Life.

ADVERTISING PROD. ASSISTANT
Qualifications:
- Knowledge in Computer Office and Layouting software operations
- College graduate
- Must have hands-on experience in proofreading and layouting pages/advertisements

Responsibilities:
- Shall proofread and design layout of the newspaper pages and advertisements
- Entertains supplement/People, Events and Products editorial inquiries

RECORDS CLERK – Advertising
Qualifications:
- College graduate preferably with background in Marketing or Advertising
- 1 year experience in similar job

Responsibilities:
- Responsible for the maintaining and recording of publication orders and contracts
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DRIVER
Qualifications:
- High School graduate
- Holder of a professional driver's license
- 1-2 years experience in collection work or similar field

Responsibilities:
- Responsible for driving light company vehicles to transport office personnel, supplies or materials to local or long distance passage

DESK EDITORS
Qualifications:
- College graduate major in Journalism or any Social Sciences course.
- Must have 3 years experience in newspaper Journalism
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PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY
Special Economic Zone Environment Management Project

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY/APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP), hereinafter called "the Government" through the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) hereinafter called "the Employer", invites interested local and foreign contractors to apply for Eligibility and Prequalification and if prequalified, to bid for the STP Rehabilitation Project of the Special Economic Zone Environment Management Project — Bataan Economic Zone.
2. This is the second invitation to Prequalify/Apply for Eligibility and to Bid for SEZEMP-Bataan, STP Rehabilitation Project. Nobody pre-qualified in the first invitation. The project description is still the same particularly.
3. Budgetary Project Cost : P 120M
   Source of Fund : GOP (PEZA)
   Construction Period : 365 Calendar Days
   Tentative Starting Date : September, 2003
   SCOPE OF WORK
   a. Rehabilitation of Existing Sewage Treatment Plant (Rated Capacity 15,500 cu.m. / day)
   b. Construction of New Sludge Drying Bed (Approx. 9,000 sq.m.)
   c. Repair of Existing Sludge Pump Room, Admin. and Disinfections Bldg., (approx. 1,800 sq.m.)
   d. Construction of New Guard House (approx. 6 sq.m.)
   e. Rehabilitation of Existing Road and Landscaping (Approx. 11,300 sq.m.)
4. The application of pre-qualification is open to bona fide qualified contractor from all countries and areas. Foreign Contractor Applicants should be licensed in their own country/area, or has filed an application for Special License at PCAB, and must satisfy with the requirements of EO 40, i.e. forming themselves into joint venture with local contractor; and Local Contractor Applicants must be holding PCAB "AAA" License & Certificate of Registration and Classification of Contractors as Large "B" for Sewerage or Sewage System and/or Water Treatment Plant and System.
5. Contractors forming themselves into a Joint Venture shall comply with the provisions for the procurement of civil works under the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Executive Order No. 40, series of 2001 (EO 40).
6. In view of the size of the project and relative advanced construction and technology required, eligible contractors shall have an adequate expertise and experience in the similar projects. The Applicant must meet the following minimum requirement.
   - The value of the prospective bidder's largest single contract, adjusted to current prices completed and similar to the contract to be bid must be at least fifty percent (50%) of the approved budget for the contract to be bid.
   - Successful experience in the execution of construction and/or rehabilitation projects of at least three (3) sewerage/water treatment plant/system having a capacity of at least 1,000 cu.m. per day or at least one (1) sewerage/water treatment plant/system having the capacity of 15,000 cu.m. per day comparable to the proposed project within the last ten (10) years.
   - The prospective Applicant's Net Financial Contracting Capacity (NFCC) based on his net working capital must be at least equal to the estimated budget for the contract.
7. Pre-qualification Document may be procured upon submission of the following:
   Letter of Intent, Authorization to Purchase Document, certified true copy of the Contractor's License and Certificate of Registration and Classification (for Local Contractor); and license in their own country/area (for Foreign Contractors).
8. Prequalification document will be made available for issuance starting March 21, 2003 at the PEZA-SEZEMP Office c/o BAC Secretariat, 3/F Almeda Building, Roxas Blvd., cor. San Luis St., Pasay City, upon payment of a non-refundable amount of P3,000.00. The deadline for submission of accomplished Pre-qualification Documents in sealed envelope (1-original & 5-copies) shall be on **June 02, 2003**, not later than 5:00 PM at the same venue mentioned above.
9. PEZA shall notify the Applicants regarding the results of the Pre-qualification evaluation on or about **June 25, 2003**. The plans and Bid Documents shall be issued by PEZA not later than **June 26, 2003**, upon payment by the pre-qualified contractor's of non-refundable amount of P30,000.00.
10. The tentative schedule of the Site Inspection and Pre-bid Conference is on **July 14** and **July 21, 2003**, respectively. Moreover, the date of bidding shall be on **August 11, 2003**; wherein the dropping and opening of bids shall be held at the same venue as stated above at 10:00 AM.
11. All particulars relative to the procurement of the contract shall be governed by the provisions of E.O. 40, series 2001 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations and other applicable rules and regulation.
12. PEZA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defects contained therein, and accepts the offer most advantageous to the government.

BAC-Chairman
Philippine Economic Zone Authority

(PDI - May 10 & 11, 2003)

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2 CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND	2 CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND		THX GUARANTEED SEATS 2 X-MEN 2 1:30, 4:25, 7:20, 10:15	2 BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE
3 BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE	THX GUARANTEED SEATS 3 X-MEN 2 11:10, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30	2 X-MEN 2 12:40, 3:20, 6:00, 8:40	GUARANTEED SEATS 3 PINOCCHIO 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30	3 X-MEN 2
4 X-MEN 2	4 25TH HOUR		GUARANTEED SEATS 4 CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00, 11:20	CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND
	5 JOHNNY ENGLISH	Onstage ACOUSTIC NIGHT OUT FEAT. SIDE A May 16, 17, 30 & 31	GUARANTEED SEATS 5 X-MEN 2 12:45, 5:40, 8:35, 11:30	5 TILL THERE WAS YOU
	6 X-MEN 2			
	7 TILL THERE WAS YOU			

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4

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CONFESSION OF A DANGEROUSE MIND
4 BAYARAN
5 (SDDS) X-MEN-2

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2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
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3 BAYARAN
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
CONFESSION OF A DANGEROUSE MIND

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1 X-MEN-2
2 XEREX

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1 BAYARAN
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
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1 A MAN APART
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3 (DOLBY) X-MEN-2
4 BAYARAN

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1 TILL THERE WAS YOU
2 (DOLBY) A MAN APART
3 (DTS) X-MEN-2
4 BAYARAN

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1 WILLARD
2 XEREX
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3 XEREX

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2 BOLDD STAR
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4 X-MEN-2

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3 (DTS) X-MEN-2
4 BAYARAN
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2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 X-MEN-2

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1 X-MEN-2
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 BAYARAN

Mega Center Mall
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1 JOHNNY ENGLISH
2 XEREX
3 (DTS) TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 (DOLBY) X-MEN-2

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1 (DTS) RESERVE
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1 BOLD STAR
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 RESERVE

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1 XEREX
2 X-MEN-2
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 JOHNNY ENGLISH

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045)887-5001 TO 03

1 (DOLBY DS) EQUILIBRIUM
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 (DTS ES EX) X-MEN-2
4 XEREX

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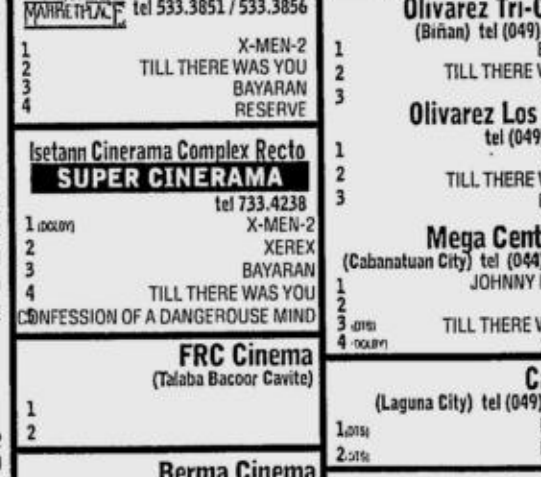

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3 X-MEN 2
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6 TILL THERE WAS YOU
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8 JOHNNY ENGLISH

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1 TILL THERE WAS YOU
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 X-MEN 2
4 XEREX
5 X-MEN 2
6 BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE
7 CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND
8 SOULKEEPER
9 BAYARAN
10 ANGHEL SA LUPA

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1 BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
3 EQUILIBRIUM
4 X-MEN 2
5 A MAN APART
6 BAYARAN
CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND
8 TILL THERE WAS YOU
9 X-MEN 2
10 WHAT A GIRL WANTS
11 XEREX
12 ANGHEL SA LUPA

SM CITY MANILA
5239240

1 BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE
2 JOHNNY ENGLISH
CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND
4 X-MEN 2
5 SOULKEEPER
6 X-MEN 2
7 ANGHEL SA LUPA
8 PINOCCHIO
9 TILL THERE WAS YOU
10 BAYARAN
11 XEREX
12 TILL THERE WAS YOU

SM MEGAMALL
6331901 • 6329401

1 JOHNNY ENGLISH
2 SOULKEEPER
3 X-MEN 2
CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND
5 PINOCCHIO
6 BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE
7 BAYARAN
8 TILL THERE WAS YOU
9 ANGHEL SA LUPA
10 X-MEN 2
11 TILL THERE WAS YOU
12 XEREX

SM CITY NORTH EDSA
9295452

1 ANGHEL SA LUPA
2 X-MEN 2
3 XEREX
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
5 JOHNNY ENGLISH
CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND
7 BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE
8 X-MEN 2

SM SOUTHMALL
8066868

1 SOULKEEPER
2 CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND
3 X-MEN 2
4 ANGHEL SA LUPA
5 PINOCCHIO
6 BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE
7 TILL THERE WAS YOU
8 X-MEN 2
9 XEREX
10 BAYARAN

SM CITY CEBU
2313876

1 X-MEN 2
2 SOLARIS
3 ANGER MANAGEMENT
4 JAILBIRDS
5 XEREX
6 BAYARAN
7 TILL THERE WAS YOU
8 X-MEN 2

SM CITY ILOILO
3209422

1 JAILBIRDS
2 CLOSED
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 KANGAROO JACK
5 X-MEN 2
6 ANGER MANAGEMENT
7 CLOSED
8 BAYARAN

SM CITY PAMPANGA
7128015

1 X-MEN 2
2 A MAN APART
3 PHONE BOOTH
4 BAYARAN
5 TILL THERE WAS YOU
6 TILL THERE WAS YOU

SM SUPER CTR. SUCAT
8294975

1 BAYARAN
2 X-MEN 2
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 ANGHEL SA LUPA

SM CINEMA TUTUBAN
2514302

1 X-MEN 2
2 ANGHEL SA LUPA
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 BAYARAN

SM CITY DAVAO
2976998

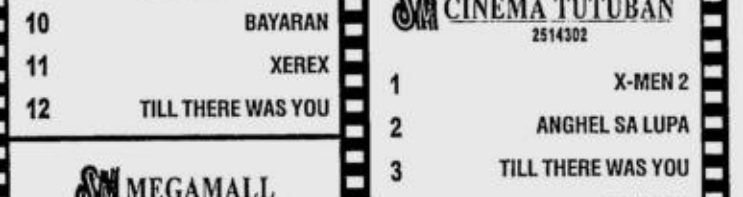
1 X-MEN 2
2 X-MEN 2
3 WISHMASTER 4
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
5 ANGER MANAGEMENT
6 KANGAROO JACK

SM BICUTAN
776-3055

1 X-MEN 2
2 ANGHEL SA LUPA
3 TILL THERE WAS YOU
4 X-MEN 2

SM CITY CAGAYAN DE ORO
859-2884

1 SOLARIS
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 ANGER MANAGEMENT
4 X-MEN 2



18 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City
633-8976

1 BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE
11:40 FS/12:10 MF/2:20/4:30/6:40/8:50/
10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/12:40 END

2 X2: X-MEN UNITED
11:10 FS/11:40 MF/2:30/5:20/8:10/
10:30 LFS/11:00 LMF/1:20 END

LATE NIGHT SCREENING DURING FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS
Matinee : P100.00 - Screening until 5pm • Monday thru Friday
Regular Rate : P120.00 - After 5pm • Saturday • Sunday • Holidays (Reserved Seating)

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS
@ Robinsons Malls
call-a-movie: 536- 7812
NOW SHOWING

Galleria
632- 9115- 16
633- 7641 loc. 279

THX
X-MEN2
12:30 LMF,3:30, 6:30,
9:30 LMF, 11:50 END

2 X-MEN2
3 BRINGGING DOWN THE HOUSE
4 PINOCCHIO
5 TILL THERE WAS YOU
6 CONFESSIONS DANGEROUS MIND
7 SOUL KEEPER
8 BAYARAN
9 XEREX
10 JOHNY ENGLISH

MATINEE PRICE: P90 THX cinema / P75 1level cinemas
Mon.- Fri. / 10am- 4pm (EXCEPT HOLIDAYS)

Ermita
536 -7809- 12

1 X-MEN 2
2 SOUL KEEPER
3 BAYARAN
4 BRINGGING DOWN THE HOUSE
5 PINOCCHIO
6 TILL THERE WAS YOU
7 CONFESSIONS DANGEROUD MIND

Metro East - Marcos hiway
682- 8193 / 8280

1 BRINGGING DOWN THE HOUSE
2 X-MEN 2
3 XEREX
4 CONFESSIONS DANGEROUS MIND
5 X-MEN 2
6 TILL THERE WAS YOU
7 JOHNY ENGLISH
8 BAYARAN

Novaliches
935- 3229 - 30

1 X- MEN 2
2 BRINGGING DOWN THE HOUSE
3 XEREX
4 CONFESSIONS DANEROUS MIND
5 TILL THERE WAS YOU
6 JOHNY ENGLISH
7 ANGER MANAGEMENT
8 BAYARAN

Malabon Citisquare
288-0985 / 288-2575

1 XEREX
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 X-MEN 2
4 BAYARAN

Star Mills- Sn. Fernando, Pamp.
(045)875-1927
(045)961-5270

1 X-MEN2
2 PHONE BOOTH
3 BAYARAN
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
5 RING 2
6 A MAN APART

Imus
471- 8188 / 875- 3838

1 X-MEN 2
2 BRINGGING DOWN THE HOUSE
3 BAYARAN
4 CONFESSIONS DANGEROUS MIND
5 TILL THERE WAS YOU
6 XEREX

Sta. Rosa Laguna
(049)837-0907

1 X- MEN 2
2 A MAN APART
3 BAYARAN
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
5 XEREX

Bacolod
441- 0453 / 0459

1 X-MEN 2
2 TILL THERE WAS YOU
3 XEREX
4 ANGER MANAGEMENT
5 KANGAROO JACK
6 SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE

Iloilo
336- 8077 - 78

1 X-MEN2
2 ANGER MANAGEMENT
3 KANGAROO JACK
4 TILL THERE WAS YOU
5 BAYARAN
6 JAIL BIRDS

MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

MTRCB R-13

Strictly for 13 years of age and up

Sexy Asian angels display amazing martial arts techniques in 'So Close'

Lynn (Shu Qi) and Sue (Zhao Wei) are sexy and beautiful sisters whose parents were brutally killed by powerful underworld figures. Disillusioned with the law and armed with amazing computer and kung fu skills (not to mention an enviable fashion style), the seductive sisters become professional assassins, killing criminals for other criminals.

Gutsy and brilliant female cop Yat Hong (Karen Mok) relentlessly pursue the sisters, who are in turn fascinated by their tough adversary.

SO CLOSE, starring Asia's most alluring and talented young actresses, features the coolest, breath-taking martial arts sequences from world-renowned director Cory Yuen, Jet Li's martial arts choreographer in THE ONE, KISS OF THE DRAGON and ROMEO MUST DIE. Don't miss it!

Special advance showings May 12&13

OPENS MAY 21 AT A THEATRE NEAR YOU

MTRCB RATING PG-13 Parents are forewarned that they should guide their children in watching this movie. Parental Guidance is required.

COMING MAY 21, WEDNESDAY!

THE "RING" PHENOMENON GOES BACK TO ITS ROOTS TO FIND YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE... SADAKO!

RING the BIRTHDAY

Ring - O

She haunted you after she died.
Now, she'll terrify you to death when she's alive!!!

THEATRE MALL
GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND EX

NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1
X-MEN 2
11:00, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40
PG13

CINEMA 2
BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE
11:40, 1:55, 4:10, 6:25, 8:40
PG13

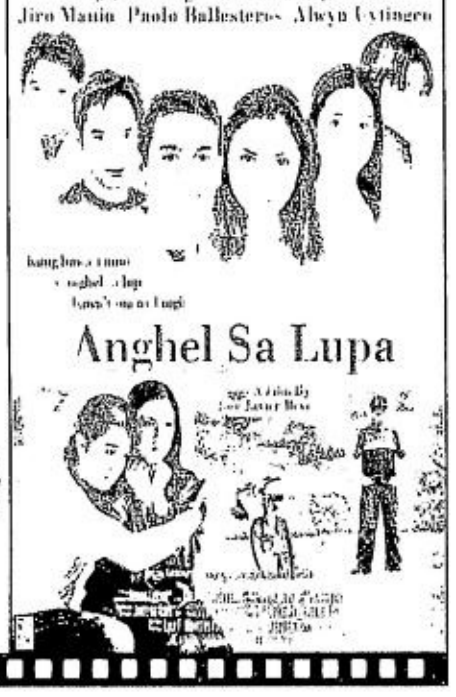
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

MUSIC MUSEUM

MAY 16 & 17, 2003	"KUH HITS BACK" (Kuh Ledesma)	9:00PM
MAY 24, 2003	DINGDONG AVANZADO	8:00PM

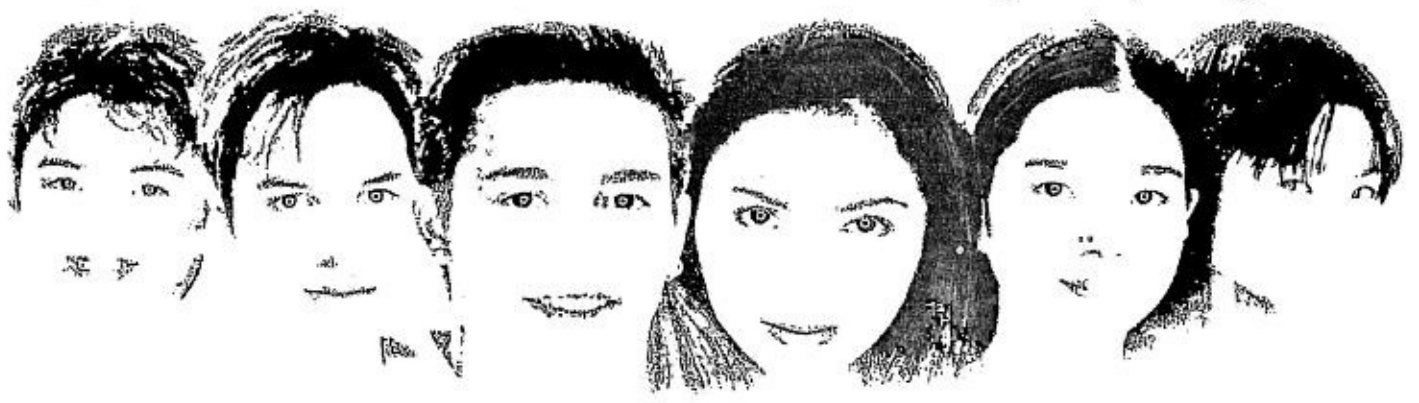
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0635

SEE IT FIRST!
SM CINEMA
SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING
A Snack Studio Inc. Mother's Day Treat
on May 11, 2003
Tickets are available at the Organizer's Booth in the Cinema Lobby
SM North Edsa • Megamall
Southmall • Manila Fairview
Sta Mesa • Sucat • Bicutan
Tutuban • Bacoor
MTRCB RATING: PG13
Regular showing on May 21, 2003 at the SM CINEMAS



MOTHERS DAY TREAT ADVANCE SCREENING TODAY BY SNACK STUDIO INC.
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE ORGANIZERS BOOTH IN THE CINEMA LOBBY.
NOW SHOWING IN ALL METRO MANILA MALL. HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!

Dina Bonnevie Ricky Davao
Cogie Domingo Maxene Magalona
Jiro Manio Paolo Ballesteros Alwyn Uytingco



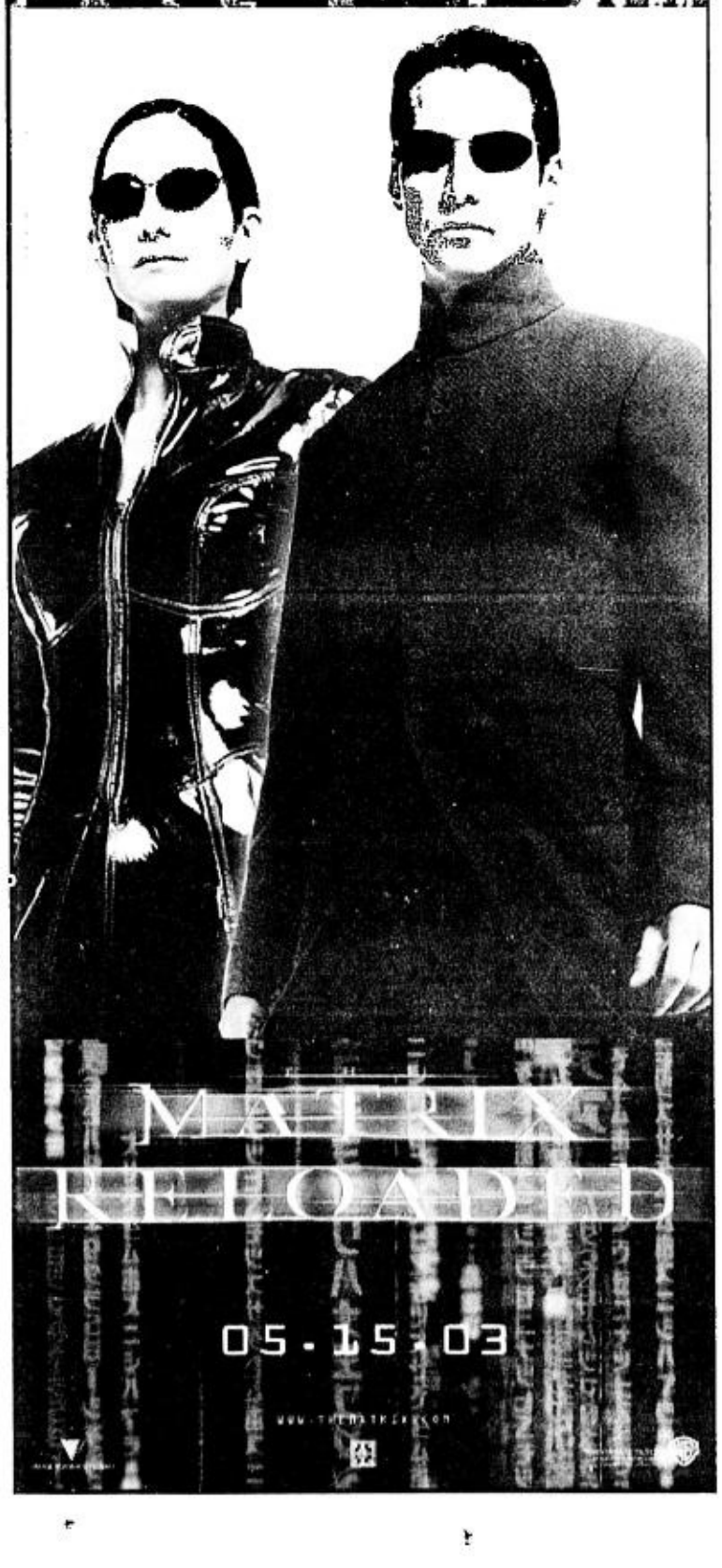
Anghel Sa Lupa

RATED PG13

A REGAL ENTERTAINMENT INC. PRESENTATION

Directed By: Jose Javier Reyes, dgpi

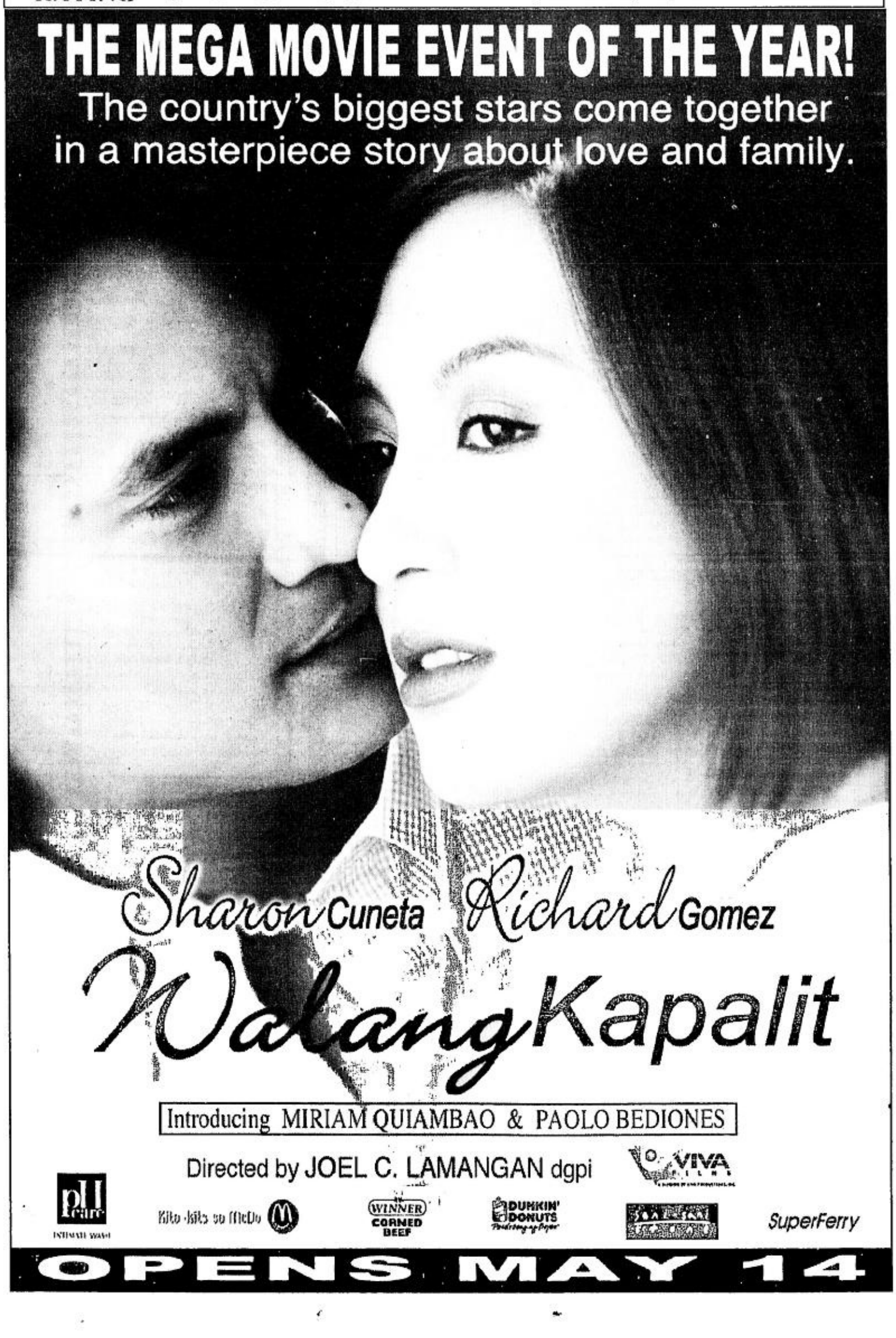
R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP
OPENS MAY 15 IN 160 THEATERS NATIONWIDE



MTRCB RATING PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will be allowed in accompanied by a parent or adult.

THE MEGA MOVIE EVENT OF THE YEAR!

The country's biggest stars come together in a masterpiece story about love and family.



Sharon Cuneta Richard Gomez

Walang Kapalit

Introducing MIRIAM QUIAMBAO & PAOLO BEDIONES

Directed by JOEL C. LAMANGAN dgpi

VIVA

pH care INTIMATE WASH

Kita-kits sa McDo

WINNER CORNED BEEF

DUNKIN' DONUTS

SuperFerry

OPENS MAY 14

GIA

Thailand Campus

Learn about Gems & Jewelry

From the world's foremost authority in gemology
70 year history of excellence in education
over 300,000 students worldwide

GIA Graduate Gemologist Diploma
the most recognized gemological credential

G.G. Program starts July 21, 2003

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Tel: (662) 237-9575 / 77 Fax: (662) 236-9829
giathai@ksc15.th.com www.giathailand.com

NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
San Juan, La Union
Tel. No. (072) 242-5907 / (072) 242-5910

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The **NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA)** invites all interested **Private Security Agencies** to register, apply for eligibility and to bid for provision of security services at the following installations of NFA Region I. The service contract to be bid shall be divided into lots with one province treated as one (1) lot:

PROVINCE	NO. of SG's	APPROVED BUDGET
1. Abra	6	P 679,608.00
2. Benguet	15	P 1,699,020.00
3. La Union	21	P 2,489,004.00
4. Ilocos Norte	12	P 1,422,288.00
5. Ilocos Sur	30	P 3,555,720.00
6. Eastern Pangasinan	24	P 2,844,576.00
7. Western Pangasinan	15	P 1,777,860.00

Registration/Eligibility/Bid documents will be available for issuance at RBAC Secretariat, NFA, San Juan, La Union upon payment of P1,000.00 which is non-refundable.

Only those who have been pre-qualified by the RBAC-SS and who have paid an additional P5,000.00 as Bidding Fee shall be allowed to participate in the Pre-Bidding conference and the Bidding Proper. Hereunder is the schedule:

May 19-22, 2003	- Issuance of application forms for registration
May 28, 2003 (1500H)	- Deadline for submission of application forms for registration
June 3-6, 2003	- Issuance of Certificate of Registration and application for Eligibility to Bid
June 17, 2003 (1500H)	- Deadline for submission of application for eligibility
July 9, 2003 (1300H)	- Pre-bidding Conference
July 16, 2003 (0930H)	- Submission and opening of sealed bids

A Special Power of Attorney issued by the prospective bidder authorizing its representative to purchase the bid documents on his behalf shall be required before issuance of the documents.

NFA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY/INFORMALITY OF THE BIDS RECEIVED AND TO ACCEPT ONLY SUCH BIDS WHICH ARE ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY.

(Sgd.) **VICTORIANO Q. MOLINA**
Asst. Regional Director and Chairman, RPBAC

(PDI - May 11 & 18, 2003)

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The National Housing Authority through the Project Evaluation Committee (PEC) is inviting private developers and contractors to undertake medium to high rise building construction under joint venture in the following project sites, to wit:

a. **Kalayaan Site 2 MRB / HRB Development** located at Kalayaan Avenue cor. Matino St., Diliman, Quezon City;
b. **Banahaw MRB / HRB Development** located at San Martin de Porres, Cubao, Quezon City; and
c. **Andrew Avenue MRB / HRB Development** located at Maricaban, Pasay City.

Interested developers and contractors may submit their letters of intent for any or all of the above projects addressed to the Chairman, Project Evaluation Committee, National Housing Authority, Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City. Deadline of submission of pre-qualification documents is on **May 15, 2003.**

Checklist of requirements for pre-qualification of joint venture developers/ partners and other pertinent documents relative thereto are available at the Office of the PEC Secretariat, 2nd Floor, NHA Main Building.

The NHA reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, waive formalities on any defects therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) **JOSEPH PETER S. SISON**
Assistant General Manager/
Chairman, Project Evaluation Committee

(PDI - May 11, 2003)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The following persons are hereby notified of their overdue payments on their installments for the purchase of the following real estate properties, namely:

NAME	PROPERTY	PAYMENT(S) DUE
Rosalinda Fernandez	Neopolitan, PI B121 L18 TCT# 36403	P 3,846,458.86
John/Leriza Calalang	Neopolitan, PIV B37 L7 TCT# N-193917	6,108,456.60
Adorable Paner/ Ronald Villasenor	Neopolitan, PVII B205 L7 TCT# 37837	6,884,468.52

The above-named-persons are hereby given a grace period of two (2) months from publication of this notice within which to pay the above mentioned sums to DBH Development Corporation at the 6th Floor, Renaissance Tower D, Meralco Ave., Pasig City. Failure to pay the above amounts shall result in the cancellation of the Contracts to Sell by DBH Development Corporation.

(PDI - May 11, 2003)

To all Banks, Businessmen and Collecting Agents

FOR DISCOUNTING

5M worth of Account Receivables of items sold to a prestigious company.

BIG Discounts.
Cash Payments only.

For interested parties, please call
9120823, 9133766, 9133876

look for Ms. Grace Wong

Republic of the Philippines
Province of Sorsogon
Municipality of Donsol
OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND BID

1. The government of the Philippines through the **Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR)** has received a loan from **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** for **Agrarian Reform Communities Project (ARCP).** It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for **Rural Infrastructure Components** for which the invitation to pre-qualify and to bid is issued.
2. The Municipality of Donsol, Sorsogon, as implementing partner of the DAR for ARCP, intends to pre-qualify contractors and if pre-qualified to bid for the **CONSTRUCTION OF OGOD-TRES MARIAS FARM TO MARKET ROAD.**

ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	UNIT
000	Mobilization/Demobilization	Lump sum	
001	Construction of Bunkhouse	32.00	Sq. M.
102	Roadway Excavation	9,168.40	Cu. M
103	Structure Excavation	99.27	Cu. M
104	Embankment	7,037.15	Cu. M
200	Aggregate Sub-Base Coarse	3,412.00	Cu. M
201	Aggregate Base Coarse	3,412.00	Cu. M
500	RC Pipe Culvert	1.00	L. S.
505	Stone	1,422.63	Cu. M.

MINIMUM EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:

1 Unit Bulldozer	-Owned
1 Unit Payloader	-Owned
1 Unit Road Grader	-Owned
1 Unit Road Roller	-Owned
2 Units Dump Truck	-Owned
1 Unit One-Bagger Mixer	-Owned
1 Unit Water Truck with Pump	-Owned

3. Pre-qualification forms Pre-C and bidding documents may be purchased by eligible bidders at the **Office of the Municipal Mayor, Donsol, Sorsogon from May 11 to May 24, 2003** and upon payment of non-refundable Fee of **Seven Thousand Five Hundred Pesos** (P7,500.00) for each set payable to the Municipal Treasurer. Interested bidders may obtain further information at the same office address.
4. Submission of application for Pre-qualification must be received in sealed envelopes addressed to the **PBAC Chairman, Municipality of Donsol, Sorsogon,** not later than **5:00** o'clock in the afternoon on **May 26, 2003.**
5. A pre-bid conference shall be held on **9:00** o'clock in the morning on **June 9, 2003** at the **ABC Hall, Donsol, Sorsogon.**
6. The Opening of Bids will be on **2:00** p.m. on **June 25, 2003** at the ABC Hall, Donsol, Sorsogon. No bids will be accepted later than **2:00** p.m. The bids shall be valid for a period of 120 days after bid opening and must be accompanied by a security **(surety bond)** of 2.5 % based on the approved budget to be posted in favor of the Municipality of Donsol, Sorsogon.
7. The approved budget for this project is **SEVEN MILLION FOUR HUNDRED NINETY FIVE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTY FIVE AND 12/100 PESOS (7,495,335.12).** The duration of the project is 121 calendar days. Only contractors classified as **Medium "A" & Above** by **CIAP** with appropriate classification are the subjects of this validation.
8. The PBAC-ARCP reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify to the bidder for the expenses or loss that may incur in the preparation of bid and accept the bid most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) JEROME F. ALCANTARA
Municipal Mayor

(PDI – May 11 & 18, 2003)

Philippine Amusement & Gaming Corporation
Responding Through Responsible Gaming

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
ITB NO. 03-11-2003

The Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is inviting all authorized dealers / distributors of air-conditioning units in its forthcoming public bidding for the project stated hereunder:

Project : Supply, Delivery, Installation and Commissioning 16 units 7.5 TR capacity Air-Conditioner
Approved Budget : Two Million Four Hundred Sixteen Thousand Pesos (P2,416,000.00)
Source of Fund : by Loan

Only suppliers duly registered with PAGCOR shall be allowed to participate in the bidding. Unregistered suppliers must register at the Suppliers Registration & Evaluation Division (SRED), Procurement & Property Department (PPD), 2nd Floor PAGCOR House, 1330 Roxas Blvd., Ermita Manila, Tel. No. 526-0573.

The detailed project particulars and instructions to bidders are discussed in the **Bid Documents** available for issuance **from May 3, 2003 to May 20, 2003** at the PBAC Secretariat Unit (BSU), PPD upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***Five Hundred Pesos (Php 500.00).*** In order to secure the documents, interested bidders should primarily submit a **Letter of Intent** including the names of at least five (5) authorized representatives of the company that will handle the above-mentioned project to the BSU **not later than 5:00 p.m., May 19, 2003.**

Pre-Bid Conference : May 20, 2003 (10:00 a.m.)
Submission of Bids : June 3, 2003 (10:00 a.m.)
Opening of Bids : June 3, 2003 (10:00 a.m. onwards)

PAGCOR has the right to disqualify any prospective bidder found to have submitted falsified documents and/or information, to accept or reject any or all bids, to annul the bidding process, to waive any defects or formalities found therein and to accept such bid or a part thereof as may be deemed most advantageous to PAGCOR, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder/s.

PAGCOR reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is *prima facie* of collusion between appropriate public officers or employees of the agency, or between the BAC and any of the bidders, or if the collusion is between or among the bidders themselves, or between a bidder and a third party, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies or tends to restrict, suppress or nullify competition, or if the BAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures, or for any justifiable and reasonable ground where the award of the contract will not redound to the benefit of the government (R.A. 9184, Sec. 41).

Please address all communications to the BAC Secretariat Unit, Procurement & Property Department.

(Sgd.) RENE C. FIGUEROA
Chairperson, BAC-2

(PDI – May 4 & 11, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER
East Avenue, Quezon City 1100, Philippines
Telephone No. 925-2401 to 50

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY & TO BID

The Philippine Heart Center (PHC) is inviting contractors to participate in the biding for the replacement of peripheral glass windows at the Hospital Building. The following are the registration requirements needed:

1. Letter of Intent
2. Legal requirements
   - Current holder of at least Medium A under Building and Industrial Plant Classification - Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB)
   - Sole proprietorship (Filipino Citizen)
   - Partnership (at least 75% belongs to Filipino Citizen)
   - Corporation (75% of Outstanding Capital)
3. Completed largest similar contract or on-going similar contact ≥ 50% of ABC
4. Contractor's Performance Evaluation System (CPES) rating and/or certificate of completion and owners acceptance

DESCRIPTION	ABC	BIDDING FEE
Replacement of Peripheral Glass Windows of Hospital Building	P11,623,893.54	P11,623.89

Source of Funding : PHC FUNDS
Terms of Payment : It shall be based on the provision of the contract as attached in the Terms of Reference.

The lists of eligibility requirements will be issued at Bids and Awards Secretariat (BAC), Purchasing Division, PHC, Basement, MAB, East Avenue, Quezon City. Only eligible bidders shall be required to pay the non-refundable fee. The deadline for the submission of requirements is on May 26, 2003 not later than 5:00 p.m. For inquiry, please call Purchasing Division at 922-0574.

The agency reserves the right to reject any & all bids or declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract, if there is evidence of collusion between relevant public officer or employees of the agency or the BAC & any of the bidders, or among the bidders, or between bidders & third parties, including any act which restricts, suppresses or nullifies competition, or if the BAC is found to have failed to follow the prescribed bidding procedures. The agency also reserves the right to waive any required formality in the bid received, provided that such waiver does not refer to a major deviation in a bid or any requirement provided in their E.O. 40 IRR pertaining to the substance of a bid.

(Sgd.) **RAUL D. JARA, M.D.**
Chairman BAC

(PDI - May 10, 11, 17 & 18, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Agrarian Reform

INVITATION TO SUBMIT NOMINEES FOR GOLDEN PLOW AWARD

DAR is going to celebrate June as CARP month. It will be marked by an awarding ceremony for The Presidential Golden Plow awardees. DAR is inviting all qualified nominating entities to submit their nomination for the award. Deadline for submission of nominees is on May 26, 2003. Please address your nominations to:

Hon. Roberto M. Pagdanganan
Secretary
Department of Agrarian Reform
Elliptical Road, Diliman, Quezon City

Attention: Awards and Citation Committee
15th CARP Anniversary Celebration

A. Background

The Presidential Golden Plow Award is an award that recognizes the vision, reason and courage of those who selflessly render extraordinary and outstanding service or contribution to humanity in the implementation of the land reform and Comprehensive Agrarian Reform. This award recognizes the service or contribution of individuals, groups of individuals or institutions with far-reaching consequences and emulative effect to Man and Society.

B. Scope of the Award

(1) Public Service - Extraordinary and outstanding service or contribution for the public good and interest by a private citizen or individual; group of private citizens or individuals; or private institutions;
(2) International Understanding - Extraordinary and outstanding service or contribution in the promotion and advancement of international amity through mutual help and assistance by individuals, group of individuals or institutions whether private. governmental, domestic or foreign;
(3) Government Service - Extraordinary and outstanding service or contribution for the public good and interest in any field of land reform and Comprehensive Agrarian Reform by any officer or employee of the government of the Republic of the Philippines.

There are three (3) categories of awards for every field of endeavor namely: (a) individual; (b) group of individuals; and (c) institutional.

There is one award for each of the three fields of endeavor. These are: (a) one award for Public Service; (b) one award for International Understanding; and (c) one award for Government Service.

An award may be joint between individuals, group of individuals, institutions, or between any two of the three categories or among the three categories which/who are considered by the DAR, upon recommendation of the Committee on Awards, to be equally deserving of recognition in a given year.

C. Criteria for Selection

1. Performance of an extraordinary and outstanding service or contribution for the public good and interest specially in the furtherance of the objective of land and agrarian reform.
2. Evidence of sustained effect of contribution or work performance over and above the normal duty requirements of a given individual, group of individuals, or institutions.
3. Contribution to the cause of land and agrarian reform or performance of extraordinary and outstanding service is of such far-reaching consequence and emulative effect on Man and Society.

D. Procedure

The award is open to any person, group of persons, regardless of sex, race, creed or nationality; or institutions, whether private or governmental, domestic or foreign.

The following procedural guidelines shall be observed:

1. To come under consideration for an award, a person, group of persons or an institution shall be recommended in writing by someone with the competence therefore in accordance with the pertinent provision of Executive Order 150.
2. Competence to submit nominations shall be enjoyed by persons, both Filipinos and foreigners, within the particular field of endeavor concerned and in conformity with the following pertinent provisions of Executive Order 150:

Who Are Competent to Nominate:

Public Service:

(a) Persons who have received this award in this field;
(b) Heads of state or private educational institutions;
(c) Leaders of private organizations or institutions, national in scope, whose purposes are: to work for improving the status of farmers and farmlands or laborers, encourage cottage industry, increase and diversify agricultural production, improve rural health and education, promote cooperative movement for rural credit, improve production and marketing of farm products, promote dissemination as well as free discussion of information and matters of public interest, stimulate and promote rural improvements and proper development of human and natural resources, train rural reconstruction personnel or cooperate with the State in carrying out programs or rural reconstruction, and all other activities related to and connected with land reform.
(d) Other persons who, because of their work, study or background are in close touch with individuals, groups or association identified with the purposes above.

International Understanding Award

(a) Persons who have received the award in this field;
(b) Heads of United Nations Missions and Regional Cooperation Organizations in the Philippines;
(c) Heads of Diplomatic Missions in the Philippines;
(d) Leaders of private and governmental institutions or organizations, international in scope, whose purposes are the promotion and advancement of international amity, friendship and understanding through mutual help and assistance between and among peoples of different countries;
(e) Other persons who, because of their work, study or background, are in close touch with individuals, groups or associations identified with the purposes above stated.

Government Service Award

(a) Persons who have received the award in this field;
(b) Heads of commissions, bureaus or offices for the enhancement of the civil service system;
(c) Heads of institutions or colleges of public administration in the state or private universities;
(d) Leaders of private institutions, national in scope, whose purposes are: to work for the enhancement of the government service; to encourage research and studies of government activities; and to promote employee welfare;
(e) Other persons, who because of their work, study or background are in a position to follow and watch closely the careers of public servants.

3. Only nominations supported by adequate evidence and submitted by competent persons invited to nominate shall be considered. The following may be nominated:

Who Can Be Nominated

(a) Individuals, groups of individual or institution who have extraordinary and outstanding performance specifically in the furtherance of Land Reform or Agrarian Reform.
(b) Individuals, groups of individual or institution whose work has evidences of sustained effect of contribution to land or agrarian reform over and above normal duty.
(c) Individuals, groups of individual or institution whose contribution to the cause of land or agrarian reform is of such far-reaching consequences and emulative effect on man and his society.

Ideally, only the last five years' accomplishments will be considered. However, performance beyond five years may be considered if its significance has not become apparent until recently.

E. What to Submit

1. Profile of nominating individual, group of individuals or institution showing compliance to the provision of section D2 above.
2. Nomination proposal highlighting accomplishments based on criteria spelled out in section C and D 3 a-c above.
3. Evidences to the claims stated in the proposal.
4. THE AWARD IS GIVEN ANNUALLY. IF, HOWEVER, IT IS CONSIDERED THAT NONE OF THE NOMINATIONS THAT HAVE COME UNDER CONSIDERATION MERIT RECOGNITION, THE DAR MAY OMIT AWARDS IN ONE OR MORE CATEGORIES IN ANY OR ALL FIELD OF ENDEAVOR IN ANY GIVEN YEAR.

(Sgd.) **NELSON G. GENITO**
Chairman, Awards and Citation Committee

(PDI - May 11, 2003)

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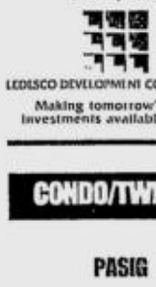

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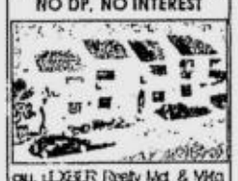

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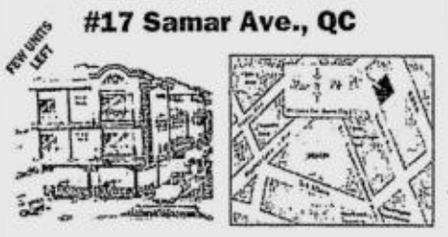

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★SUBIC back of CT Hall 46has.@200/m² 0919221766

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VVerde 6BR 5TB MRw/TB Lanai P57 T 929-9835 •0917-8470918

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Xaviervile; Nwmla 4127148

RIZAL

Calnta 3.5T w/gar 8979541

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Salcedo 1Brm Must See New Rmdld T547-3472/71

Virra Condo 4 Rent FF 40T Contact 0917-4086139

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3STRY 5BR 3T&B 1PARKING PACO 5621784/09189301422

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QUEZON CITY

Nr Munoz Edsa 3br2tb 4145596

SCT AREA 13T 3BR 4578041

SAN JUAN

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APARTMENT

MAKATI

2BR PLDT nr Fort 8432783

Bnew UD 2TB grg 8969417

Nr. Rockwell 2BR 742-1029

MANILA

SAN SEBASTIAN UNIV BELT 7041058/7348912 OFC HRS

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34 Yale CUBAO P8T 9310449

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MAKATI

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MKTG STF 09167054572 ECHO

MktgSlf 0919-2535623 Glenda

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is given that the S2 lic. # 10941R02-0436 of Dr. Mary Jocelyn U. Ang was lost. (PDI-May 11, 2003)

PERSONAL

Dear Lola Auring,
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!
Bong, Ida, Benjo & Lab

Dear Lola Eding,
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!
Bong, Ida, Benjo & Lab

OFFICE CLERK
Female college graduate, Computer literate, can speak & write English Bring your resumé w/ picture & credentials to:
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Republic of the Philippines
PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER
East Avenue, Quezon City 1100, Philippines
Telephone No. 925-2401 to 50

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY & TO BID

The Philippine Heart Center (PHC0 is inviting bidders for 6 months contract for:

DESCRIPTION	Bidding Fee
Medical/Laboratory Supplies	P1,000.00 /co.
Pharmaceutical Supplies (medicines)	1,500.00 /principal
Foodstuffs Supplies	500.00 /co.

Source of Funding : PHC FUNDS

The lists of registration requirements will be issued at the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) Secretariat, Purchasing Division, Basement of MAB, PHC, East Avenue, Quezon City. Only eligible bidders shall be required to pay the non-refundable fee. The deadline for the submission of requirements is on **May 30, 2003** not later than 5:00 p.m. For inquiry, please call Purchasing Division at 922-0574 ask for Noemi.

The PHC reserves the right to reject any or all bids offering any reason to waive any formality or technicality, and to award any bidder whose proposal is deemed most advantageous to PHC. The PHC neither assumes any obligation for any loss whatsoever that may be incurred by the bidders in the preparation of their respective bids, nor does the PHC guarantee an award will be made.

(Sgd.) RAUL D. JARA, M.D.
Chairman, BAC

(PDI - May 10, 11, 17 & 18, 2003)

INVITATION TO BID "AS IS WHERE IS"
Damaged Motor Vehicles

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Various Repairable Appliances

For particulars, call Philam Ins. Co., Inc./ Dick Cariño. Tel.# 878-54-57

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE is given that Makati Medical Center Stock Cert.#1626 issued to ELVIRA S. EDUQUE with 228 shares was lost. If no contest received new certificates will be issued.
(PDI-May 9, 10 & 11, 2003)

PERSONAL

To my dearest mom,
(Choleng Gapas)
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!
WE LOVE YOU VERY MUCH!
LOVE,
Meck & Saday & Kids

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Deadline of materials is on May 23, 2003. Please send all materials in jpeg format.

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* Note: EARLY BIRD SPECIAL – Less 10% to road show participants or to those who sign up on or before May 15, 2003. For payments, please make all checks payable to Web Philippines, Inc.

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☐ Supplier Listing (5 cm. X 3 cm.) PhP 1, 600.00
(will contain Name of Company, Contact Person, Address, and Contact Information.
Should you wish to include logo/photo, just avail ☐ additional 5 cm. X 3 cm. space).

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Mother's Day Treat

Mom,

This Mothers' Day, we want to let you know how special you are and how much we appreciate all that you've done for us. Because of you, we've become better individuals and learned what's important in life. Thanks for always guiding and showering us with love. You're the best.

We love you so much!
Happy Mothers' Day

Love,
Joan, John, Sioti

You are given not
by chance but a blessing.
Happy Mother's Day
Nanay Encar
Mommy Buena
Mama Arlene

Love: Papa Pondong!

Dear Mom,

Thank you for giving me wings so I may have the chance to soar.
I appreciate everything you've done for me. I'm sorry for our fights in the past. My siblings and I — we are a legacy of your strength and resilience. Thank you. We love you.

Love,
KJLee

Ma,

Thank you for being the
Hitler mom
that made us scared of you
when we were kids
Later on did we realized
It is your love and
discipline
that gave us the success that
we are enjoying now.

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

Love,
DonArnDen

Mommy Genevieve,

This could be late to greet you a Happy Birthday. Advance if we say Happy Wedding Anniversary. The most important we could greet you on time & say "HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY." WE LOVE YOU!

Ron & Son Genlo

you are a mother who knows best

carl sr., loving husband
mon & sha - monching
john & liz - jc, jin-jin, mimi
happy & mel - taby
carl jr., garry

To our dearest
Mom,
Happy Mother's Day to you!
Love,
Rich, Ram, Ron, Rob and Bianca

To : Mary Lim Tuazon,
Dear Mommy,

Words are not enough to express how much you mean to us, You are always there when we need you & we thank you for all the love & support you have given us through the years. We will continue to love you till the end of time. On this Mother's day, We want to let you know how you touch our lives in your special way. For us, You are the BEST Mother in the world & we are thankful for everything you've done to us.

Happy Mother's Day!!!

From: All of Us

Maraming salamat sa pagmamahal at pag-aaruga na ibinibigay mo sa amin.
Happy Mothers Day!
We Love You! Mwah!
From Daddy, Nim & Ivy

Nanay **Jasmin**,
You're the best!
Thank you for all the things you do. We love you.
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
Love from:
Grace, Lou & Susan

Kindhearted, compassionate, loving
and supportive; that's what you are to us... .Mama.
Happy Mother's Day!
Love,
Nonoy, Jen² and Pengpeng

MOMMY,
I thank God for giving me the blessing of having the best "Mommy".

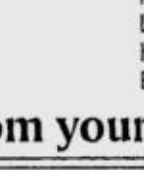
I LOVE YOU
BETH

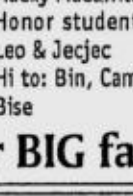
Mader,
There's no way we could pay you back for all the great things you did for us.

Happy Mother's Day &
We love you.
ALLAN, MAAN, AWE

Mama Susan,
Thank you for everything.

Happy Mother's Day!
From all of us
Dizon

Dear Mommy,
Thank you for guiding me.

Happy Mother's Day!
Love,
JC

Mama Lou,
Happy Mother's Day!

Thank you for everything.
From all of us
Valdecañas

Mom SP,
U ROCK!!!

Love,
Leon, Lori, To2y

Mumsy Cena,
We love you!
Lin, Gel, Slobe

Mommy Angie,

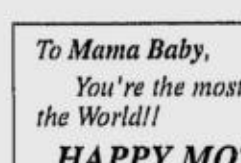
We love you very much.
Daddy, Joshua, Jasmine and Justine

MA,
We love you.

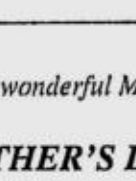
Mylah, Lei, LJ & Esty

Dear Mama
U R Wonderful. We can't ask for more.

Consolacion Able Kids

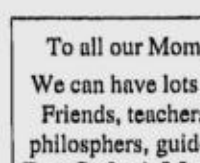


Mommy Lyn,
You're the best!
Babygirl

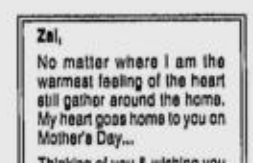
Mommy Violy,

Thank you for the love you give unconditionally
Happy Mother's Day
Vanessa, Odie, Ramil & Allan

Dear Mom JOVITA T. COMIA
Thank you for loving us Always
We Love You Always!
Happy Mother's Day!
❤❤❤From Your Kids:
Beverly and Jayberni

Dear Mama Ann,
Happy Mother's Day!
God Bless you and give you strength.
Love,
Sonny, Drexler, Kevin & Samantha Faith



Mama Jeanette,
Happy Mother's Day!
We Love You!
Papa, Kevin, Jev & Jem



DEAREST MOM,
We love you!
DAD, BENJO & LAB

To My Mom Julie,
Happy Mother's Day!
Thank you for being such a great mom to us.
Love,
Sheryll

MOM,
Thanks for all the LOVE. I'm very grateful to God for bringing you in my life. I love you!
Happy Mother's Day
Masoy

To my dearest Mommy,
Just letting you know that your "makulit na bunso" appreciates your summon(s) & sacrifices.
YOU ARE SUCH A BLESSING TO ME!
Bernice

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

Nanay Tining Amparo
Mommy Oly Isaac
Mama Beth Elma
Mommy Weng Martinez
Mommy Cel Laforteza

--0--

Nanay Ida Veluya
Mommy Eves Isaac
Nanay Edith Engracia
Mommy Cel Veluya

Lola Pacing Angles
Nanay Mely Ramirez
Mommy Vangie Ramirez
Nanay Wena Morales
Mommy Aque Sena
Nanay Lala Isaac

--0--

Mama Mely Laforteza
Mommy Abel Laforteza
Mama Cleo Laforteza

Lola Mamang Martinez
Mama Yoly Estacion
Mama Tessie Martinez
Mama Jean Martinez
Mama Dolly Martinez
Mommy Nanette Martinez

--0--

samot sari:
Happy Birthday to
Daddy Boy Isaac 5/10
Macky Macawile 5/21
Honor students - John Leo & Jecjec
Hi to: Bin, Camil, Tata & Bise

We love you! From your BIG family

Mama Marlyn,
Thanks 4 being a good Mom & a real barkada as well, & 4 all d luv & savrifice u made 4 us.
TonyBoy & Iris, Ada, Neg, Pam & Ikay

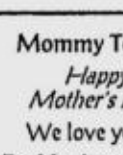
Happy Mother's Day
Mama Carmen
Uday, Kim and Ayie

Mommy Odit,
We wish you all the best today and always.
Happy Happy Mother's Day!
Bing & Liza

We love you
Mama Tesa
Happy Happy Mother's Day!
Yvan, Daph, Eggie

Mama Ely,
We know that being a mother can be a challenge as well as a joy, being a mother means finding time in a hectic schedule for the really important things. Letting go of the not-so-vital things, and knowing the diff., being a mother isn't always easy, but you manage to do it both loving & well. I admire you & I wish you the wonderful Mother's Day you deserve.
Always,
TonyBoy & Iris

Nanay Naty,
When thoughts go back across the years,
As now and then they do,
It seems as if each memory
Is special because of you—
Because of your unselfish ways,
Your kindness and good cheer,
Because you were—and still are,
Mom, so very, very dear.



Happy Mother's Day!
Love,
Lala

To the most wonderful lola,
Happy Mother's Day!
I love you!
Your apo,
Mai-mai

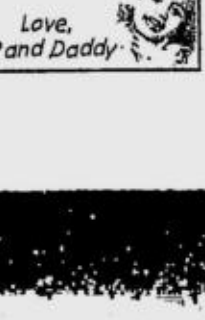
Happy Mother's Day to
Becky, Sonia & Juliet
We love you all!
Ate Liway, Kuya Turing & Atole

Mommy Tessie,
Happy Mother's Day!
We love you!!!
Daddy, Joyce, Kiko & Nina

Mommy,
Thank you very much! We love you!
Happy Mother's Day!
Daddy, Ate, Myk and Marya

To Inang,
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
May God shower you more blessings, happiness and good health.
Love, BETH

Dear Mommy Mie,
Thank you for all the love, [illegible] and support you untiringly [illegible] You truly are a blessing and we may not often say it, please know that we love you so much.
From:
Mel & Rhea, Ishmie Mul, Mabe & JC



To Mama Baby,
You're the most wonderful Mom in the World!!
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
Love,
Ava, Bogs, Ato & Roi

Maxima,
"Most Outstanding Mom"
Happy Mother's Day!
From all of US

Mama,
Mothers mean a lot of fun, And you are extra special. Now this day is.... The perfect day to tell.. How much you've always meant to us.
Happy Mother's Day
Zea-zea, Nick-nick & Zen-zen

To all our Mom,
We can have lots of Friends, teachers, philosphers, guides,
But Only A Mom!
Jimmy & Margery

Zal,
No matter where I am the warmest feeling of the heart still gather around the home. My heart goes home to you on Mother's Day...
Thinking of you & wishing you happiness on Mother's Day & always!
Papa

Mommy Emy,
It is you who makes us want to be better persons. Thank you for your love so boundless. We love you so much.
Daddy Miky, Michael, Tix, Allison & Andok Lopez

In so many ways,
you have made
our world warm & beautiful.
Thanks a lot Mom! We love you!
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!
- Richie, Mhe-ann, Hannie & Angel

You are such a wonderful
[illegible]other to us!!!
[illegible]hank you
much
Happy Mother's Day

We Love You,
Mahar, Mara & Kano

To my kind & loving wife
Happy Mother's Day!
TonyBoy

Mama Chut
Happy Mother's Day!
Tin-Tin, Eman, Mae-mae

Everdearest Ma'am EMY,
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY *to a person who supports endlessly, understands wholeheartedly and gives love unselfishly.*
You may not be our real Mom, but thank you for being our family.
WE LOVE YOU!
Love,
Your Angels
Ning, Tin & Joy

Dearest Tintin,
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY *to a mother, who just like any Mom, would give everything for her child.*
May God continue to shower you with blessings, success & love you deserve for being the best Mom any child would love to have.
Love,
Yayan, Emy,
Ning, Joy

Dear Mommy,

I Love You Very Much.
Happy Mother's Day
Love,
AR and Daddy

Mother's Day Treat

Dear Mommy Lilian,
Our love & gratefulness
are beyond words.
From your 8 children
(Ave, Claro, Albert, Leo,
Lyn, Gie, Bunny & Dave)
and our families.
HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!
WE LOVE YOU DEARLY!

Mama,
Thank you for the love and care you are giving us...
For always being there. We love you!
Happy Mother's Day!
Love,
Sherwin,
Kerwin,
Kim
and Don

Mom,
Thanks for being there always...
Thanks for the love & support...
Thanks for being our Mom...
Thanks for being the No. 1 Mom...
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!
We Love You!!!
Kris & Joseph &
John & Karen

Mommy Rose,
Thank you for always being there, and helping us to remember what is important in life.
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
Dimple, Jamie, Bobby
& Sweetheart

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY GREETINGS
TO OUR BELOVED
M O M
From Richard,
Carmina,
and Chuchu
AND OUR BELOVED
LOLA PING
From Richard, Carmina, and Chuchu together with our Tita Meann, Tita Mayes, Dad, Tita Jojo, Tito Dennis, Tito Johnny, and Tita Teena

To my dearest Kathryn,
Happy Mother's Day to you!
Love,
Lorenzo,
Aristeo
and Richard

Happy Mother's Day
to the greatest mother in the whole wide world. I love you
Mama Mariene Cabilbil.
Love Mai-mai

Mrs. Pilar R. Carlos

Thank you for always helping us to remember what is important in life... and today it is you!
Happy Mother's Day!
Papa, Ermel, Andrei,
Roselle, Rosette & Anciel

Mommy Maria Ang,
If there was a day for everything you have given us as a Mother, it would be Mother's Day everyday.
We love you very much!
From your children,
Tess, Rosie, Wilson, Elsie,
Judy, Nelson & Cezar

Mama Precy,
You are everything to Ohmpong, Farrah, Faye, Fiona and Yanny.
Happy Mother's Day!

MOMMY LORNA,
We would be lost without you. Thank you for simply being the best Mom that you are.
We love you so much!
Happy Mother's Day!
Cathy & Charmaine

Mom Cynthia,
WE LOVE YOU!
Jason
Paul & Jamie
Angela

Mommy Gina,
Thanks for all the love & care
We love you!!!
Happy Mother's Day!
From: Bolong, Greggy, Gerard, Gabo & Gwyneth

Mommy,
You're the best Mom in the world. We love you very much.
Happy Mother's Day!
From
Botong & Gina

Mommy Linda,
Only God knows how much I truly love you and how much I appreciate the kind of Mom you've been to me. How I wish you're always by my side so I can always share to you the joys of my heart. Nevertheless, always bear in mind that I love you. Let us keep that love burning in our hearts... so that we will always be happy together or apart
Happy Mother's Day
With all my love,
Hazel

Mommy,
Thanks for always being there to help us. Although we don't express it in words, we want to let you know that we love you very much!
Love ,
Meng, April and Austin

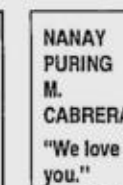
Mama,
Thanks for being supportive. We may not agree with each other all the time, but we still want to let you know that we love you very much.
Love ,
Meng, April and Austin

Dear Mommy Sharon,
Happy Mother's Day! God Bless you and give you good health everyday.
Love: Lito,
Danielle & Denise

To our dear Nanay Daisy and Am-ma,
We love you and *Happy Mother's Day.*
Love,
Pao & Mei

To all the Mothers of Meralco Dependents Livelihood Multipurpose Cooperative,
HAPPY MOM'S DAY &
God Bless.
Baby D.

Mom Aurora,
We Love You.
Aaron & Kevin Paul



NANAY PURING M. CABRERA
"We love you."
NATALIO, ARTHUR, CYNTHIA, MARYJANE

Mommy Julie & Melody,
If only I can carry all the burdens for you... I will. Happiness is what you bring to us and that is also what I constantly pray for that you find. May you have it on this special day.
I LOVE YOU, Miggy

Dear Lola Auring,
Happy Mother's Day!
Bong, Ida,
Benjo & Lab

Dear Lola Eding,
Happy Mother's Day!
Bong, Ida,
Benjo & Lab

Mama Nicasia,
You're the Greatest Mom of All
Alm, Ton2, Belle, 2net, Tonia

Mommy Fe,
You're the BEST MOM
Love,
Jay, Roa, R-A
& Marah & Dad

To Nanay,
Thank you for all the support and love you unconditionally give us.
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
We love you!
Inday Glads & Garr

To my BEAUTIFUL MOM,
Tnx for the LIFE you HAVE GIVEN ME...
I love you!
Happy Mother's Day!
BABY JED

Happy Mother's Day!
Mommy
Alma
Neal and
Maita Cerdenia

Mama Che-Che
You mean so much to us
Happy Mother's Day!
Bongga, Coy, Ryan, JR, Camille, Maemae and Berna

Nene Reyes,
Thank You for the tireless guidance you are giving us.
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
Love,
Marie Fe & Eric

Happy Happy Mother's Day
Mama Angei, Nanay Edna,
Mommy Lulu,
Mama Lola's Cerdenia Clan
Mama Lola's Villanueva Clan
We Love you All!!!
Nana, Nonin and Gelo Diaz

Happy Mother's Day!
Mama Len
We love you very much!
Eman and
Mae-mae

Happy Mother's Day to you Mama Jane.
We love you very much!
Jeanelle, Yma and Papa Arnel

Dear MAMA LIWAY
Happy Mother's Day for a loving and caring mother to all of us.
We love you!
ARLENE, ATOIE & ARNEL

Nanay EDNA,
The blessings of our Lord be with us always!
Happy Mother's Day!
ANGIE and BONÉ

Mommy Lilla,
No matter where I am the warmest feeling of the heart still gather around the home. My heart goes home to you on Mother's Day...
Thinking of you & wishing you happiness on Mother's Day & always!
Carla Griño

MOMMY ALICE & NANAY BETH,
Happy Mother's Day!
We Love you so much!
Love and prayers
JOEL& SHARON

To my dearest Mom, (Choleng Gapas)
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
We love you very much
Love,
Meck &
Saday &
Kids

Inang Juling,
Happy Mother's Day!
God bless and we love you!!!
Gem, Walden
& Renzo

Nanay Menie,
A nice mom, should be kind & loving, A caring mom, should be considerate & thoughtful, A good mom should be warm and affectionate, A great mom, should be just like you!
Happy Mother's Day
Ruel, Rodel & Ramil

To Nanay Ming,
For giving and sharing, For listening and caring, For being such a wonderful mother,
THANK YOU.
Happy Mother's Day
From:
Rhonnie, Rhandy and Sherry

Mama Beth,
No words could express how you mean to us...
We love you from our hearts to yours.
Happy Mother's Day
Love,
Papa, Ging, Des & Niña

Nanay Celsa,
You're the best Nanay in the whole world...
Happy Mother's Day!
ROY

Dear Mama,
We really thank you for being our mother and for what we are now. Thank you for the good values, respect and discipline you have impart on us that we can be proud of for the rest of our lives.
We love you so much.
Happy Mother's Day!
Love,
Bobby, Emma, Romy, Liway, Ike, Ning, Boy, Liza & Arnel

Nanay Zeny,
We want you to know that
We love you everyday
Much more than
Our words can express...
Wishing you a very Happy Mother's Day!
Dexter, Jason &
Shenna

Dear Nanay Belle,
Happy Mother's Day!
We love you!
God Bless.
Love: Rey, Joan, Jaimie & Justin

Ma,
Thanks for being such a great mother through all these years. We love you. GOD bless and keep you always.
Glenn & Claire

Dear Mommy Nene,
Happy Mother's Day!
God Bless You.
Love:
Ernie, Shalu
& John Mark

To Mommy Teng,
Happy Mother's Day!
God Bless you and give you good health.
LOVE:
Tony, Annie, Emil, Chelot, Arnel, Doll, Drex, Kevin, Sam, Adrian & Angel

For Mommy
WE LOVE YOU!
From,
BOBOY & CHING
NANNIE & JO
NONOY
NENE & BOBBY
AND DADDY

For Mommy
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY
From,
JAYMEE, CHRISTY & BEA
JAANNE, RANDY & TICTOE
JEE & JEB AND DADDY

FOR MOMMY,
OUR LOVE & KISSES!
From,
KAT, JAM,
JAN & DADDY

FOR MOMMY,
YOU ARE THE BEST!
From,
JEFRY, LINSY,
TED, TIN AND
DADDY

For Mommy,
YOU ARE THE GREATEST!
From,
EAO, HAYA
AND DADDY

To: Ate Alice, Alu, Ria, Ka Dory, Ka Belen, Cely, Tess, Shiela & Hanny cell,
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY! GOD BLESS YOU ALL!
Love,
BETH

To: Mommy Doll,
Happy Mother's Day!
God Bless you!
Love:
Arnel, Adrian
& Angel

To: Ate Nene, Ate Meteng, Ate Luz, Ate Jean, Laura,
Happy Mother's Day!
God Bless!
From,
Vangie & Beth

To: Belle, Annie & Sharon,
Happy Mother's Day! God Bless you and give you good health!
Love:
Tita Vangie
& Tita Beth

To Nanay Rose
Happy Mother's Day and you truly are a great mother.
from,
Mai

Mely Rizo Jose,
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY
Love,
NOLLY

Dear Mama Meding,
This is just a way of saying thank you for being such wonderful second mother to me, Mai & JC. We appreciate so much that we have known someone as nice as you are.
Happy Mother's Day! We love you...
from, Mabs, Mai & JC

To Mama Josephine,
This is just one of our way to say thank you for being such a nice & loving Mom to us, eventhough we're not always there beside you. We love you!
Happy Mother's Day!
From your children,
Fred, Chris, Inday, Lannga & Nene
Ate Madd & cute apor

Dear Lola Goying,
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
Love,
Agoy, Baby, Gale,
Ataf & Mark

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Paalam

sa aming pinakamamahal na kasama, kaibigan at kapamilya.

ROLANDO V. CRUZ

24 October 1937 - 6 May 2003

Former Senior Vice President and Assistant General Manager
and Managing Director, ABS-CBN Sports

ABS CBN

In The Service Of The Filipino

"I have completed well; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me which the Lord, the just judge will award to me on that day..." 2 Tim.4:7-8

Our Dearly Beloved

SOLOMON "SOL" CASTRO PACQUING JR.

(February 5, 1924 – April 24, 2003)

of Manila and Houston, Texas, USA

Peacefully met his God on April 24, 2003 at the age of 79.

His loving wife,
PERING
Children & children-in-law:
VITUS & **BABY, CHIT** & **DANNY FONTANILLA** (†), **KELLY** (†) & **HELEN, MARILYN, MALOU** & **TOM NARCISO, LEAH** & **AL MANALO, SUZETTE** & **MARS BALGOS, ROSELYN** & **MON BACLIG, RICKY** & **MEANN**

Brothers and sisters, grandchildren, great grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to rejoice and be glad for he has already experienced God's Awesome Glory.

His remains lie in state at Chapel A, La Funeraria Paz, G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City.

Cremation will be on Tuesday, 13 May 2003 at 3 o'clock p.m. after the 1:30 p.m. Mass. His ashes will be flown back to Houston, Texas for interment.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me. All their joys of my life; and I will dwell in the House of the Lord forever...

Psalms 41:13

Our Dearly Beloved Daddy

FISCAL MIGUEL KAPER RANILLO

Of Dipolog City, Zamboanga del Norte

Peacefully joined his Creator on May 10, 2003 at the age of 71.

His beloved wife **HEIDI**; children **ALAN** & **LEA**, **JOJI** & **ARMAND**, **RAY** (†), **BRIAN**, **JANET**; grandchildren, sisters, **VIRGIE** & **JACK** (†), **BABY** & **GIL** (†), **INDAY** & **RAOUL**; brother **MAT Jr.** (†) & **GLORIA**, in-laws, nephews, nieces, relatives & friends, request the pious readers to join us in celebrating Mike's coming home to the Lord.

His remains lie in state at the Ranillo Residence at 026 Burgos St., Dipolog City, Zamboanga del Norte.

Interment schedule to be announced later.

VICENTA VILLEGAS CONNER

Died peacefully on May 8, 2003 at the age of 101.

She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law **Emma** & **Art Palileo, Lulu Foz**; brother & sisters; grandchildren **Jharred Conner** & **Esther Espinosa, Ermanne Conner**; nieces & nephews, **Adeling Leyva**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Premier I, Funeraria Filipinas Inc., Makati City.

Interment will be on Sunday, May 11, 2003, at 2:00 p.m. at the Manila South Cemetery.

APOLONIA S.P. AQUINO

Peacefully joined her Creator on May 9, 2003.

Her remains lie in state at Garden of Memories Memorial Chapels, Pateros, Metro Manila.

Interment will be on Tuesday, May 13, 2003 after the 2:00 p.m. Mass at Garden of Memories.

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

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He peacefully left the world and all he loved.
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His were ears that listened, more than he talked.
He was a good husband, a generous father, a loving
***LOLO DANNY** and **DADDY** to his nieces and nephews.*

*We will always remember you, **DADDY**.*

His wife **Jullet**; children **Joy** & **Dexter**; daughter-in-law **Dionne**; grandchildren **Gleo** & **Joaqui**; **Nanay Leony**, request relatives, friends and pious readers to include **Danny** in their prayers.

Holy Masses will be offered on **May 11, 2003** at:

Parish of the Resurrection *Phase I, BF Homes, Parañaque*	5:30 AM; 6:30 AM; 8:00 AM; 9:00 AM; 10:00 AM; 11:00 AM; 3:00 PM; 4:30 PM; 5:30 PM; 6:30 PM; 7:30 PM & 8:30 PM
St. Dominic Parish Church *Eagle Rock, California*	7:30 AM
Presentation of the Child Jesus Parish *Phase III, BF Homes, Parañaque*	6:00 AM
Jesus the Divine Healer Parish *Tahanan Village, Parañaque*	6:30 AM 8:00 AM
Our Lady of Peace Parish *Sucat, Parañaque*	6:00 AM
Our Lady of Unity Parish *Sucat, Parañaque*	9:00 AM 6:30 PM
Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary *Sun Valley, Parañaque*	9:30 AM
Manila Cathedral Church *Manila*	7:00 AM
San Agustin Church *Intramuros, Manila*	8:00 AM
San Ildefonso Parish *Pio del Pilar, Makati City*	6:30 AM
Holy Family Parish *Bo. Kapitolyo, Pasig*	6:00 AM
Holy Family Parish *San Isidro, Makati City*	6:00 AM
St. John Bosco Parish *Makati City*	6:30 AM
St. John Vianney Parish *Antipolo, Rizal*	8:30 AM
Our Lady of Carmel Church *Lipa, Batangas*	6:00 AM
San Sebastian Cathedral Church *Lipa, Batangas*	8:15 AM
San Isidro Labrador Parish *Catalunan Grande, Davao City*	6:00 AM

Orlando M. Espenilla

Of San Jacinto, Masbate

Joined his Creator on April 26, 2003
at San Francisco, USA

His loving wife **Josephine** and his children **Edgar, Alex** and **Erica;** brothers and sisters **Alejandro (†), Josefina, Corazon, Clementina (†), Nestor, Consuelo, Jesus (†), Noe** and **Zenaida (†);** nieces and nephews, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at Imperial Chapel, La Funeraria Paz, Inc., G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Interment will be on May 14, 2003 at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina City after the 8:00 a.m. Mass.

Jones Ruiz Castro

LENT BY THE LORD 27TH OF NOVEMBER 1916
REJOINED THE LORD 8TH OF MAY 2003

The family of Jones Ruiz Castro announces his passing at the age of 86 on the 8th of May 2003 in Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa. He lies in state at St. Alphonsus Parish Center in Magallanes, Makati. A Funeral Mass is to be held at the Magallanes Church on Tuesday, the 13th of May 2003. Interment will follow the Mass at Manila Memorial Park in Sucat.

Predeceased by his spouse Dr. Angelina Mesina Castro, he is survived by his children Dr. Gloria Castro-Zappia, Ana Corina (Jeng) Van Dijk, Jones M. Castro, Jr. and Jan M. Castro; sons-in-law Dr. Rosario Zappia and Mr. Frits Van Dijk; daughters-in-law Marina Eduque Castro and Joyce Suarez Castro, grandchildren Angelina Zappia, Corina Zappia, Gabriella Zappia, Anthony Van Dijk, Alexander Van Dijk, Angelina Castro, Joanna Castro, Jacqueline Castro, Jones Castro III, Joelle Castro, James Castro, Christine Castro and Julian Castro.

In lieu of flowers donations to his favorite charities would be much appreciated: Tahanang Walang Hagdan and Boy's Town.

The reader is requested to say a little prayer to speed him on his final journey.

MAY HE REST IN PEACE AMEN.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

THE FAMILY AND RELATIVES
OF THE LATE

RUPERTO CONSUNJI y ROQUE

of Samal, Bataan and Manila

who died April 3, 2003

wish to express their gratitude to all who shared their grief, offered Masses, prayers and flowers, visited them and kept vigils, spoke words of comfort or quietly kept them company demonstrating their personal concern, which served them comfort and strength in their most difficult moments.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

ARCH. EXEQUIEL P. ACEDILLO

of #3 Engineering St., GSIS Village, Q.C.
and of **Gapan, Nueva Ecija**

Died May 10, 2003 at the age of 54.

He is survived by his loving wife **Remedios**; children **Gilbert, Joselito** and **Mary Grace**; daughters-in-law **Rose** and **Margie** and grandchild **Argee**; brothers, sisters and other relatives.

His remains lie in state at La Funeraria Paz at #143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya, Quezon City from May 10-13, 2003 and will be transferred to Gapan, Nueva Ecija on May 13, 2003.

Interment will be on May 14, 2003, 12:00 noon in Gapan, Nueva Ecija

ATTY. ARCHIMEDES "MEDY" RAGADIO PABLO

FORMER ASSISTANT PROVINCIAL FISCAL OF ZAMBALES

Passed away in the Grace of our Lord
on May 9, 2003 at the age of 71.

He is survived by his loving wife **MIGUELA**; children **AGNES & JESSIE, ALMA & JOSE, PAGASA & LUIS, PAULINA & ABEL, ANTONIETTA & EMMANUEL, CARMEN & GILBERT, ARCHIMEDES, JR & JENNIFER,** and **MIGUELA II & CLAUDIO**; 21 grandchildren, grandson-in-law, 2 great grandchildren, sisters, brothers, sisters-in-law, relatives and friends.

We request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at the family residence in San Marcelino, Zambales.

Interment will be on Tuesday, May 13, 2003 at the San Marcelino Cemetery after the 2:00 p.m. Holy Mass at the Philippine Independent Church, San Marcelino, Zambales.

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"Eye has not seen, ear has not heard, nor has it much as dawned on man what God has prepared for those who love Him."
I Corinthians 2:9

Message of Thanks

For visiting us and being with us in our time of sorrows...
For praying with us and for us...
For the Mass cards and messages of sympathy and condolence...
For the beautiful flowers to express compassion...
For joining us in our nightly vigils...
For attending the Masses and funeral rites...
For thinking of us in our hour of grief...
For all that you have done to console our hearts...

Our sincerest gratitude.
From the family of the late

GENEDINA GATCHALIAN HABITO

"I will reward them with long life. I will save them."
Psalm 91

Rosario Dioquino Chiong

Peacefully joined her Creator on May 9, 2003
at the age of 46.

Her loving husband **Pete**, children **Anne**, **Malou**, **Patty** and **Mika**, mother **Daleng** and brother **Chito** request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Mt. Carmel Church, New Manila, Quezon City. Interment will be on Tuesday, May 13, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat Road, Parañaque City, after the 1:00 p.m. Mass at Malate Catholic Church.

She faced death as she faced life -- with faithful acceptance.

Message of Thanks

WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE

We, the family of

MARIO B. BENOZA

(Retired GSIS Employee)
who joined his Creator on April 23, 2003 at the age of 61.

wish to convey our deep appreciation to all those who offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers and cards of sympathy, visited and kept vigil, attended the funeral Mass and interment rites, and condoled with us in our hour of bereavement.

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

ENTERTAINMENT

E-mail: pr_entertainment@inquirer.com.ph

Editor Louie C. Camino

FIRST Gentleman brings hope to Manlapaz and wife Consuelo.

DID YOU KNOW...

This popular actor, who had been a TV comedian for years when he suddenly shot up to the big time after a sexy role in a movie with a new bold star, wanted to buy shabu but did not have the money, said witnesses who are close to other movie stars. To raise the drug money, the actor sold two sacks of rice to the mother of an acquaintance. The actor even helped carry the sacks of rice into the buyer's house. His acquaintances, including a known drug user, confirmed that the actor has been a regular shabu user, although he maintains a physique that his fans describe as "to die for."

Mike A brings wheelchair, cash to sick ex-comedian

RUDY Manlapaz, the former comedian who has fallen on hard times and who had wished for a new wheelchair and "an airpot by my bedside," has gotten his wish.

Manlapaz, 70, had been using a borrowed old wheelchair since suffering a stroke in 1990. On Labor Day, he received a new one from no less than First Gentleman Mike Arroyo who visited the hard-up former funnyman in his house on a street called, ironically, Peso Street in Parañaque City.

"The whole village was suddenly filled with cars," Manlapaz, moved and proud, told INQUIRER Entertainment. "For a while there, I was popular again."

Manlapaz wept when he saw Arroyo, according to Arroyo's media coordinator, Miner Salvador.

The story of Manlapaz, in INQUIRER Entertainment last April 25, also prompted a big movie star who refused to be identified, a public relations woman from Makati, and a Filipino teacher in New York to ask how they could help the man who was an active entertainer from the late '50s through the '80s.

Arroyo also gave Manlapaz an undisclosed amount of money for medicines and regular physical therapy sessions. There also was presumably enough money to buy the ailing man a new airpot (thermos bottle).

"*Mang* Rudy showed us his old photographs with (former President) Diosdado Macapagal," said Salvador. Manlapaz used to impersonate the late president—who is Arroyo's father-in-law—in his stage performances.

"Thanks to him (Arroyo) and the INQUIRER, I now have a wheelchair of my own," Manlapaz said. "I gave the old wheelchair back to its owner."

The big star had called INQUIRER Entertainment to ask for Manlapaz's address, the day the ex-comedian's story came out, but the star requested not to be identified.

Corabel Y. Diel, a Filipino teacher in New York City, e-mailed the INQUIRER to ask for Manlapaz's address so "I could send to him whatever he needs from New York."

"He reminded me of my dad, who died moneyless," Diel wrote. "Papa was a lawyer, a governor and an assemblyman for Misamis Oriental. (He was) all these for 30 years but he died without money."

PR practitioner Amor Maclang, of Makati, said she, too, was moved by the story of Manlapaz. She also asked how she could help.

"To be perfectly honest, I barely remember Rudy Manlapaz but his story is truly touching," Maclang said, also in an e-mail. "I was just wondering how I can help. Thank you for the touching story."

A stroke due to high blood pressure paralyzed half of Manlapaz's body 13 years ago. He has been in a wheelchair since then.

He was a much sought-after comedian in stage shows and later on TV and in movies from the late '50s to the '70s. He was in sitcoms like "Balitang Barbero" on Channel 11, "Ginang Milyonaryo" on Channel 2, and, in the early '80s, on "Cafeteria Aroma."

"I lived a carefree life back then," he recalled in the earlier INQUIRER Entertainment story. "Life had been so good that my only problem was how to spend all my money."

During the interview, he told this writer, "Please help me. If you write my story, then maybe FPJ (Fernando Poe Jr.) or Sharon (Cuneta) would remember me. I worked with them before all this happened to me."

He said he needed a new wheelchair, "and an airpot by my bedside so I don't have to wake up my children when I get hungry at night."

Marinel R. Cruz

MOM Angelu with Nicole (left) and Loise

Angelu wants a son /C3

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Angelu, mother of 2 girls, wants to have a son

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

IF RUMORS are to be believed, **Angelu de Leon**, only 22, should have four kids by now.

"Every year, there's always talk that I am pregnant again," Angelu laments. "Just because I have two kids with different fathers doesn't mean I get pregnant every year. *Wala na siguro silang ibang maisip na intriga sa 'kin.* I don't get affected anymore because I don't dwell on it.

"Sometimes, I even find it funny. When friends ask me to go bar-hopping with them, I tell them, *"Wag na, baka may mangyari sa baby ko*'."

After being in show biz for more than half of her young life, Angelu has learned to take all the intrigues in stride. "Nothing has really affected me," she asserts. "I know myself, despite what people say. I can be a bitch if I want to, maybe if the reports about me hit below the belt. A lot of negative things have been said about me but I never made *patol* to them. I don't know anymore what below the belt means."

Angelu (real name, Maria Luisa Angela) is a single mom to two precocious girls. **Maria Louise Nicole**, 4, is her baby with actor **Joko Diaz**. **Maria Loise Margaret**, 2, is her baby with an ex-boyfriend who is not from show biz.

"She is more vulnerable," the young mom says of Loise. "She hates the limelight. She is very much like me when I was young. I see myself in her because she's shy, she does not easily talk to anyone and her head is always bowed. She hardly laughs. *Mahal ang ngiti niya*, but she is not a crybaby. She copies what I do or what her *ate* (Nicole) does. She loves gadgets like my cell phone.

HAPPY NOW, Angelu says she has no regrets about having fallen for "the wrong guys."

"Nicole loves watching TV. She is anti-social, but she's *galawgaw*."

Angelu doesn't want to see her kids become part of show biz. "But if they really want it, I will not stop them," she says. "My dad didn't want me to join show biz, but when the offers for TV commercials came, I wanted to do them, so *itinatakas ako ng* mommy *ko*. My dad died in January 1992 when I was still in grade school. I entered show biz in September that same year."

She says her kids don't really look for their dads.

"My daughters are full of love despite the absence of a father figure at home," she maintains. "If the father role means giving financial support, then my kids don't really get that from their dads. When Joko and I worked together in 'The Oragons,' he didn't even asked to see Nicole, so I didn't volunteer. The last time they really saw each other was when Nicole was one year and 8 months old. After that, *wala na talaga.*"

Even if her daughters see her on TV in the GMA 7 soap "Sana ay Ikaw na Nga," the kids have no idea that she is a star.

"One time, I brought them along to our taping in Tarlac. When some people asked for my autograph, Nicole asked me, 'Mommy, what did you do?' I told her I signed autographs. She asked why. I said, 'Because they know me.' She said, 'Do they know me, too? Can I also sign autographs'?"

Mother and daughters don't go out regularly, but Angelu says she sees to it that she spends quality time with them.

"We don't really have a Sunday family day, but my kids are happy when we go to Megamall or Toy Kingdom any day of the week. At Toy Kingdom, I always make a deal with them. They can get only one toy that they really, really like. Sometimes, they just swim at home.

"My most precious moment is sleeping with them. That's our bonding, more than playing. *Ang hirap magpatulog ng bata*. They have their own rooms, but when I'm home, they sleep with me. When I'm not around, they sleep with my mom, rarely with their *yayas*. If I shoot out of town, I bring them along."

Angelu claims she is a disciplinarian, but she spares her children from the rod.

"I talk to them first. There's got to be an explanation first before we even reach the spanking. Sometimes, I count. When mommy counts, they know they should stop whatever they're doing. They know it's bad when mommy starts counting. I rarely shout at them."

Angelu will host a new talk show, "CelebrityDATCom," to premiere on IBC 13 on Thursday, May 22, with co-hosts **TJ Manotoc** and **Dolly Anne Carvajal.**

Angelu also tapes on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays for the GMA 7 soap "Sana ay Ikaw na Nga," where she stars with her erstwhile love team partner, **Bobby Andrews.**

No longer a Viva Films contract star, Angelu is now a free lancer. She recently wrapped up a five-day acting job for **Tikoy Aguiluz**'s "Web Divas," about Internet prostitution, where she stars with **Gary Estrada.** She says she is more daring in "Web Divas" than in **Joel Lamangan**'s "Bulaklak ng Maynila," where her sexy turn earned her best supporting actress awards.

For "Web Divas," she had to lose weight "because I wanted to be comfortable with my body." She was at her heaviest at 130 pounds, after she gave birth to Nicole. Her major diet consists only of salads. She skips lunch and regularly goes to the gym.

Angelu says she plans to put up her own business and go back to school to get a college degree.

"I'm happy, but I know life can be better," she says. "I'm contented. I guess I got tired of having serious relationships. I got into relationships so early. It's fine to have someone special, but I don't want someone who can't even keep an intelligent conversation with me.

"I don't regret having fallen for the wrong guys. You make mistakes early on in your life and you learn your lessons. It's nice to be happy and end up with someone who really loves you. It's better to enjoy life now. Life is short."

Yes, she still sees herself settling down one day, but not in the near future.

"I want to have a son," Angelu says.

DID YOU KNOW...

An official of the Republic and a popular actor, who is coming out of semi-retirement to make a new movie soon, sat beside each other during dinner, together with three other guys, at a crowded new restaurant in Greenbelt 2 on Thursday night, according to a man about town who likes to call himself Poppinjay. The talkative little bird, however, did not get close enough to hear if they were discussing personal things or if the lawmaker was inquiring about the actor's famous uncle. It was the same lawmaker who wanted to check into Club Panoly resort hotel in Boracay during the recent Mossimo bikini summit, for "a closer look at the male contestants," according to another source.

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MARVEL
X-MEN 2
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Special screening for moms

REGAL Entertainment comes up with a Mother's Day treat today, with an advance screening of its special Mother's Day presentation, "Angel sa Lupa."

The movie, directed by Jose Javier Reyes, stars Dina Bonnevie, Ricky Davao, Cogie Domingo, Maxene Magalona, Jiro Manio and Alwyn Uytingco.

The film will be shown in all SM malls in Metro Manila. The screening is sponsored by Snack Studio, Inc. Tickets are available at the cinema lobby.

The special screening of "Angel sa Lupa" comes 10 days in advance of the movie's regular theater run, which starts May 21.

Mother, daughter in show

SHANGRI-LA Plaza Mall presents mother and daughter singing tandem, Lourna Pal and Lana Jalosjos, on their first concert together, 4 p.m. today at the mall's Grand Atrium, Level 2.

It will be a musical journey as Lourna and Lana dish out heart-warming melodies.

The Mother's Day concert is produced by Trumpets for Shangri-La Plaza. Admission is free.

'SONGBIRD SINGS LEGRAND'

Regine Velasquez's concert with renowned pianist-composer Michel Legrand at the PICC, will be aired as a two-part special on GMA 7's "Sunday Night Box Office," 9:30 tonight and on May 18.

Stars ...

He said the show's repertoire would be mainly songs they used to perform in the '70s.

"We will do a combination of solos and duets," he said. "The four of us will also sing together in some of the numbers."

He said the audience can look forward to a long, exciting medley of songs from the '70s, and a Sergio Mendez medley by the girls.

"Ding and I will also do a medley of 'Who Can I Turn To' and 'What Kind of Fool Am I'," he said.

Asked why they chose Mother's Day to stage their show, Villaluz said they wanted to make a tribute to the mothers of their generation as well as to the youngsters who used to listen to their music and are now mothers themselves.

"Now, we are back to make our baby boomer fans feel nostalgic with our Mother's Day performance," he laughed.

Show starts at 9:30 p.m. at Hard Rock, Glorietta and tickets are P400 each.

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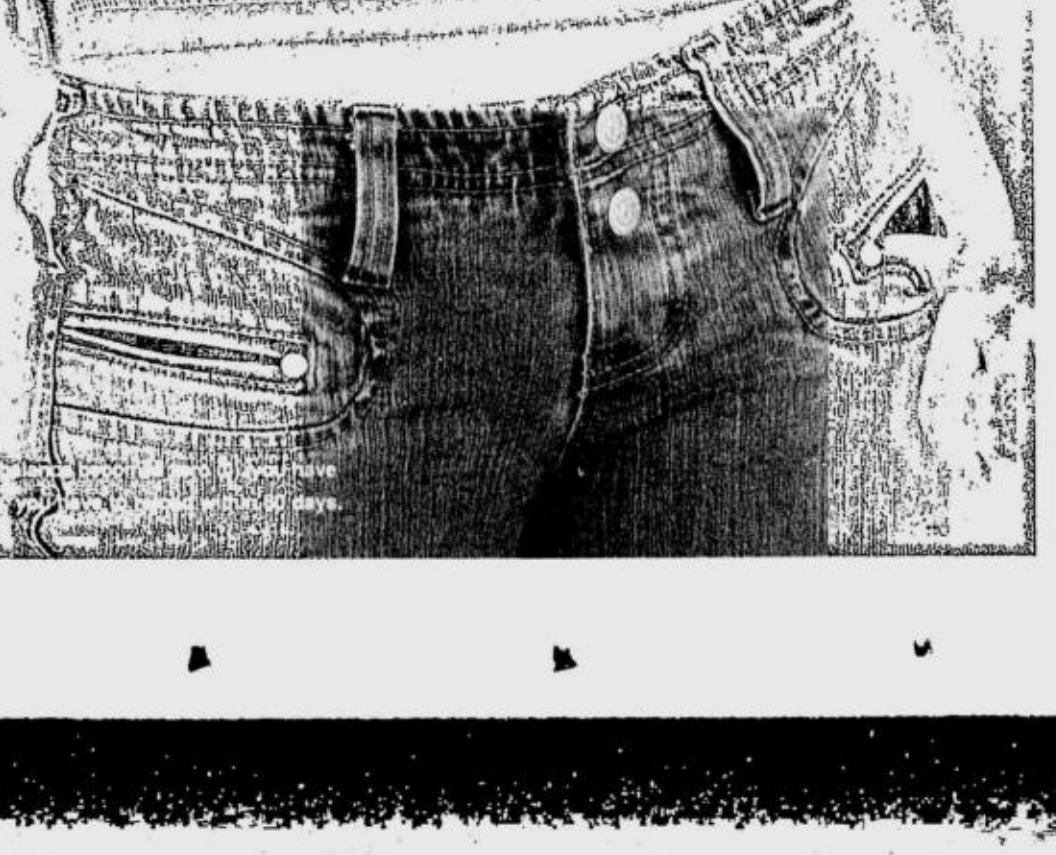

Mutants rule

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

"X2," the new "X-Men" sequel, is visually stunning from its very first sequence onward. It opens with a one-mutant attack on no less than the White House—and the president of the United States.

Despite heavy security and the immense firepower of phalanxes of agents and close-in guards surrounding the US chief executive, the mutant is able to grab hold of the president's neck and is about to stab him when...

Well, let's just say that something else transpires, so the head of the most powerful country in the world is able to escape with his life.

As the sequel's plot unreels, we learn that humans' antipathy against mutants remains fierce, and the attack on the US president further exacerbates it. It's no wonder, therefore, that some leaders urge a total clampdown on all mutant activity in the world.

Grudgingly, the president agrees to a raid on an exclusive school suspected of being a training facility for young mutants. The raid is masterminded by the film's villain, Stryker, who hates mutants.

Led by Wolverine, Storm and some other "senior" mutants, the school's faculty and students use their special superpowers to foil the raid. Professor Xavier finds himself coopted and trapped.

Stryker intends to use the mutant professor's top-secret machine to pinpoint all the mutants in the world, so they can be destroyed. That tragedy is averted when the film's principal mutant characters team up with the younger students to use their stunning range of powers to save their kind.

As you can see, the movie's plotting is no great shakes. But the film is able to hold viewers' rapt attention with its exotic characters, exciting situations and creative visual effects.

Its inclusion of younger mutants also enables it to connect with teen and adolescent viewers, the better to beef up its audience base. And the introduction of new mutant characters makes this sequel more eventful than the first "X-Men" film.

Another dimension is added by the script's provocative take on the human-mutant relationship. As the production sees it, mutants are the next stage in human evolution, so they shouldn't be feared or hated.

However, humans' fear of the unknown and the different makes this very difficult to achieve. Which is why even the US president, whose life has been spared by his mutant attacker, is unable to rise above his fears and doubts, and allows Stryker and his ilk to do their worst.

These thematic conceits are momentarily diverting and even provocative, but the film's strongest suit is still its visual effects. They keep the production exciting even when "X-Men's" lead mutants, like Wolverine, Storm and Magneto, are less dynamic here than they were in the first film.

Movies on TV

ON THE HBO movie channel: Saturday, May 10, at 12 noon, "National Lampoon's Animal Vacation." 1:45 p.m., "The Tailor from Panama." 9 p.m., "A.I. - Artificial Intelligence."

Sunday, May 11, at 8 a.m., "In the Name of the Father." 12 noon, "Mary Shelly's Frankeinstein." 2 p.m., "Little Women." 4 p.m., "Pay It Forward." 8 p.m., "Proof of Life."

Monday, May 12, at 9 a.m., "Sister Mary Explains It All." 2:15 p.m., "Hearts in Atlantis." Tuesday, May 13 at 3:30 p.m., "Somewhere in Time."

On Cinemax: Saturday, May 10, at 7:45 a.m., "Cinema Secrets: Destructive Forces." 8:15 a.m., "Memphis Belle." 9:30 a.m., "Mad About Mambo." 9 p.m., "The Time Machine." 3:45 a.m., "Cinema Secrets: Racing Through Times."

Monday, May 12, at 9 p.m., "The Milagro Beanfield War." Tuesday, May 13, at 2:30 p.m., "Lawrence of Arabia." 9 p.m., "Final Destination."

"X-MEN" HEROES. Halle Berry and Allan Cumming.

'Next Wave'

AT 7 p.m. on Sunday, May 11, the National Geographic Channel telecasts a "Next Wave" episode featuring snakes in the forests of Belize. Herpetologist **Paul Edgar** joins **Matt** and **Jo** in tracking down the Fer de Lance snake, which kills more people in Central and South America than all other snakes combined.

'$100 Taxi Ride'

AT 9 p.m. on Tuesday, May 13, the National Geographic Channel screens "$100 Taxi Ride: Barbados and Japan."

In Barbados, join a conga line, explore Bajan life and its history, visit the world's first rum distillery, and sample the exotic cuisine.

In Japan, travel to the sleepy coastal town of Beppu, home to one of the most active geothermal sites in the world, and visit Hihokan Sex Museum to discover what separates nudity from sexuality in Japan.

On May 11, the Nickelodeon channel expresses its thanks to moms everywhere with the three-hour special, "Show Me the Mummy," at 7:30 a.m. (repeat at 5:30 p.m.).

Stars of the '70s pay tribute to baby boomer moms

By Margaux Ortiz

BABY boomers will love this one.

Well-loved and well-respected singers Eugene Villaluz, Ding Mercado, Pat Castillo and Jacqui Magno will perform tonight in a special show at the Hard Rock Cafe in celebration of Mother's Day.

SHOW TIME

"Since we had our heydays in the '70s, our show is meant to attract mothers who grew up listening and grooving to our music," said Villaluz, an original member of the popular New Minstrels band.

Mercado was also one of the New Minstrel's lead singers, while Castillo and Magno were members of the equally popular Circus Band.

"Though the four of us belonged to different bands, we all had the same love for the same kind of music," said Villaluz. "Circus Band was more rock-oriented and did more cover and top 40s songs."

Villaluz, Mercado, Magno and Castillo have since embarked on solo careers and continue to make their marks in the music world, like they did when they were still part of their bands.

"I've recently been involved with musical theater," shared Villaluz. "In fact, I just finished a show with CCP.

"I'm also busy producing rising theater actor Jose Llana's OPM album for Viva Records. We're going to do it ala-Josh Groban."

Llana was Lea Salonga's leading man in the new Broadway version of "Flower Drum Song."

Tonight's show at Hard Rock is a welcome opportunity for Villaluz who looks forward to singing and jamming again with his old friends in the business.

STARS/ C4

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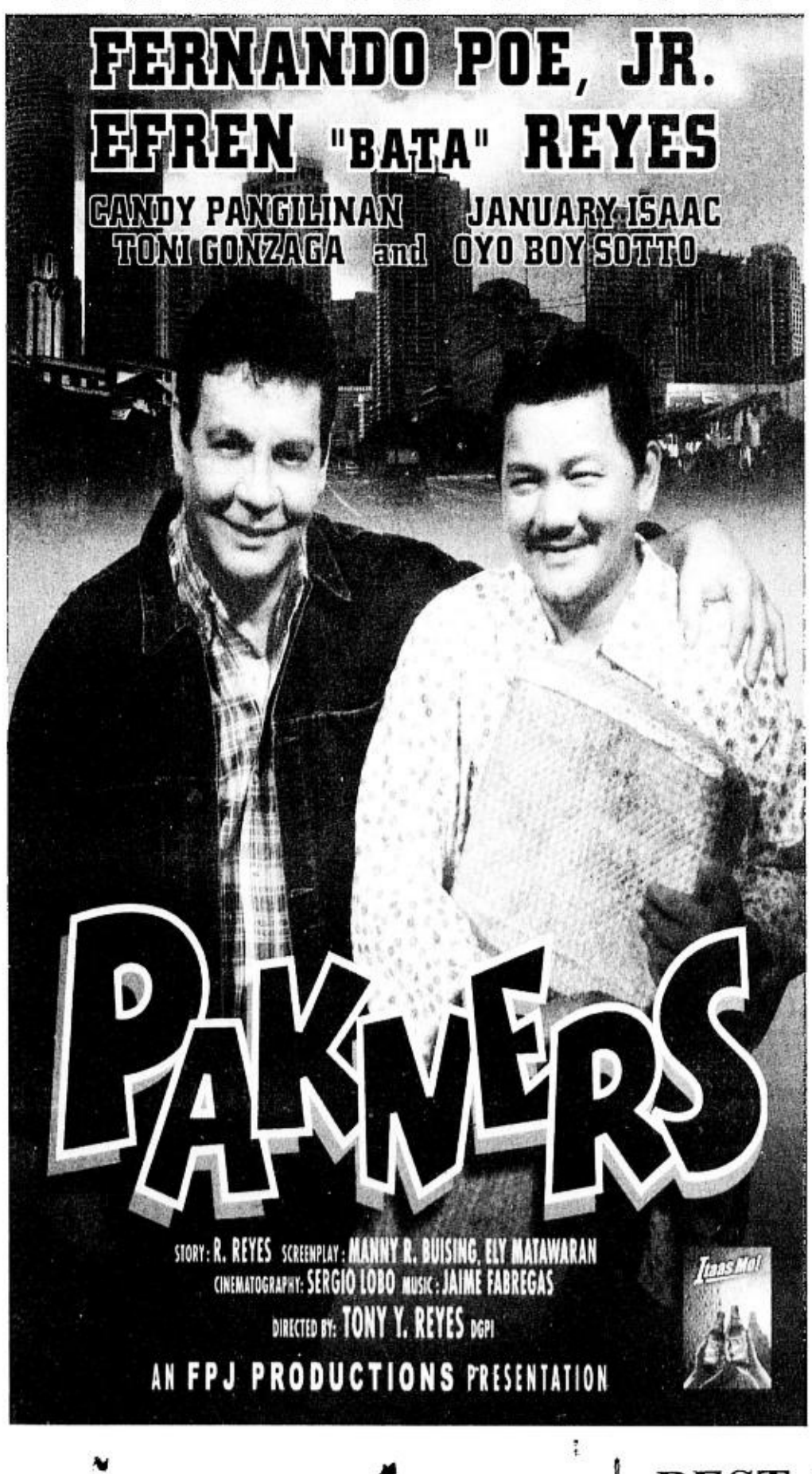

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X-MEN 2 P13 1:05,3:55, 6:45,9:35	PINOCCHIO GP 11:30,1:45,4:00, 6:15,8:30	X-MEN 2 P13 2:00,4:50, 7:40,10:30

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TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
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CORONET B	A MAN APART
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A	TILL THERE WAS YOU
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CINEMA-1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
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CINEMA-1	TILL THERE WAS YOU
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CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	X-MEN 2
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	JOHNNY ENGLISH
CINEMA-6	TILL THERE WAS YOU
CINEMA-7	A MAN APART
CINEMA-8	BOLDSTAR
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	X-MEN 2
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	X-MEN 2
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	BRINGING THE HOUSE DOWN
CINEMA-12	PINOCCHIO
CINEMA-14	TILL THERE WAS YOU
CINEMA-15	CONFESSION OF DANGEROUS MIND
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
CINEMA 1	XEREX
CINEMA 2	JOHNNY ENGLISH
CINEMA 3	X-MEN
CINEMA 4	TILL THERE WAS YOU
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	SENSUALISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

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The Gift Of Motherhood

Motherhood is the most precious gift a woman can have. Motherhood is one of the most important periods in your life. It is a time when you experience extraordinary love.

It changes you, stretches you beyond what you ever imagined you were capable of. It can be a source of supreme fulfillment and, at times, a source of some of the deepest heartbreaks.

Once your child grows from babyhood to toddlerhood, motherhood then becomes more difficult and demanding. His needs change along with his developing skills and capabilities. You now have the responsibility of guiding him through these many changes. You will constantly be faced with new challenges. The "adaptability demands" placed on you as a mother far exceed what is expected of most people in jobs they get paid to do!

Jill Savage, author of *Professionalizing Motherhood*, encourages moms to take pride in being mothers and should share with people that they are in the profession of motherhood. She advises mothers to make a basic to-do list each day to better understand and help their children make new discoveries together.*

Below are samples of what you may include in your to-do list that will help improve your child's growth and development once your child turns 1 year of age.

• Read and tell stories with your toddler everyday.

Make reading a shared experience. Point to pictures and name the objects. When you read to your child, hold him on your lap and hold the book so that he can see the pictures. It will also help if you could use puppets, dolls, and other toys as story props.

• Provide play materials that match your baby's skill and interest.

Let your child "play telephone" and have a pretend telephone conversation with him. You may also let him play with pots, pans, wooden spoons, plastic containers, and other safe household items.

• Help your toddler talk about the present, the past, and the future.

Help your toddler learn new words. Encourage him to talk about what he did in the past and will do in the future. "I think it's going to be sunny tomorrow. What would you like to do?" You may also discuss the day's events at bedtime. Ask him questions like, "Remember when we went to the park?"

• Help your child to ask for things by placing 2 or 3 things out of reach.

Tell him their names, using a complete sentence. Encourage him to say the name, without teasing or frustrating him. Mention simple words in connection with activities you do with him like, "Let's wash our hands with water. Water is wet." This helps him learn to think and understand ideas.

• Keep trying to involve your toddler in your chores by naming an object she can hand you or help you put away.

Give him things to fill and dump and talk about the objects that are "in" or "out" and things being "empty" or "full" and lids being "open" or "closed."

• Make sure to provide him with proper nutrition that is right for his age.

Aside from providing your child with activities that will help stimulate his mind, give him a milk supplement such as Promil Kid that will help nurture his mind. Promil Kid is a growing-up milk with a ProGifted formula, a balanced blend of all the essential nutrients suited to help nourish a child's brain from age 1 onwards.

Of course your to-do list cannot be done just with "quality time." It also takes quantities of time. Motherhood is a gift. The value of being there for your child can never be underestimated. Give him proper care and nourish him with the right nutrition, and you will reap the rewards of motherhood.

**Source: Jill Savage, Liz Curits Higgs. Professionalizing Motherhood, Zondervan: August 2002*

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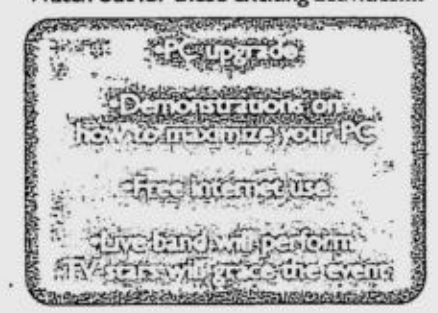

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

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IN THIS ISSUE

Mothers and then some

Mothers for peace /D4

The Mommy memo /D6

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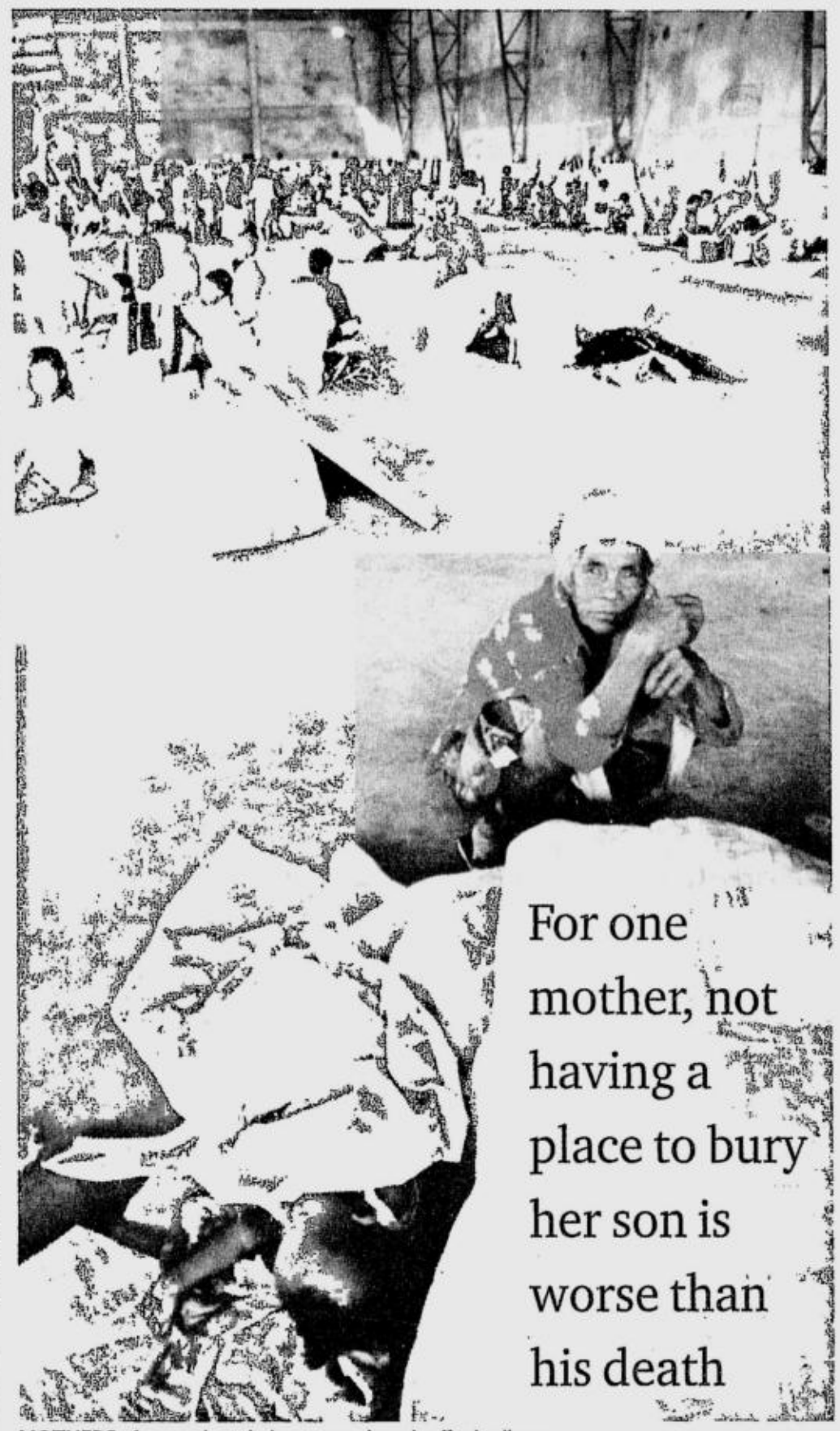
The other casualties of Mindanao war



MOTHERS often neglect their own needs and suffer in silence.

For one mother, not having a place to bury her son is worse than his death

By Baicon Cayongcat Macaraya
Contributor

IT was supposed to be a festive occasion in Inudaran as we gathered for the Kandori, a community thanksgiving for the newly constructed barangay health center.

But the mothers became somber when Babo Noraidah gave her message. Tearfully, she recalled how they were driven to the evacuation centers in search of a safe place. What they found were humiliation, hunger, discomfort, desperation, illness, even death.

Having served displaced families in Marawi City and Lanao del Sur as early as March 2000, I fully understood how that experience left a scar in her heart. "We are lucky to be here, starting to rebuild our lives. But with the situation now, we can never be sure what is going to happen tomorrow. Thousands of women and their families are still languishing in different evacuation centers, either as a result of Estrada's all-out war in 2000 or the Feb. 11 Eid-ul Adha bombing in Pikit," Babo Noraidah said.

Her quivering voice reminded me of how I trembled in fear and desperation upon seeing displaced people from neighboring barangays in Inudaran a month earlier. Days before, the sounds of bombs and planes ripped through the stillness of the night and made safety in the day uncertain. The deafening reverberations of mortar shelling drowned even the screams of two mothers in labor.

The experience of Babo Noraidah is among the heartbreaking realities in Mindanao today. Not yet recovered from the ravages of the 2000 war, Mindanao is suffering another outbreak of hostilities that started in Pikit and is now spreading all over the island.

The Feb. 11 bombing in Pikit was the opening salvo in the renewed war in Mindanao. The human toll is high but little is said about how women bear the burden of caring for the young, the old, the sick and dying. Often they neglect their own needs and suffer in silence from hunger, pain and the trauma of war.

The media give daily reports on war casualties but they overlooked the struggle for life in evacuation centers and the affected communities.

Three years ago, in one of our Tabang Mindanaw's relief distribution centers, I found a girl lying on the filthy and barely covered floor. The smell was awful-poor hygiene due to lack of water and latrines is a major concern in evacuation centers.

The room was dark but I could make out Jamaliah, a skinny 15-year-old and mother of a six-month-old baby boy who was as small as a month-old infant. Jamaliah was feverish and gasping for breath. Her father told me she had been bleeding for two days.

I asked why she wasn't brought to a hospital. "We do not have the 'donation' of P10 for each dextrose," her father said. Not wasting a minute, I enfolded Jamaliah in my arms and rushed her to a hospital. Her father was apologetic when I felt her wet back. "We don't have (a change of clothes for) her and water to clean her up. Sorry Ma'am," was all he could say.

While I was bringing her to the hospital, Jamaliah managed to touch her baby's head who was crying in her husband's arms. I could see she was in pain. Fortunately, with the care she received in the hospital and God's help, Jamaliah survived.

On the day she was discharged from the hospital, I asked another volunteer to accompany her and her family back to the evacuation center for I had to accompany film director Marilou Diaz-Abaya and the crew of the movie, Bagong Buwan. While they were taking shots of the human faces of war in the evacuation center, I noticed many people in the already crowded room of Jamaliah. I thought that they were there to give her a warm welcome.

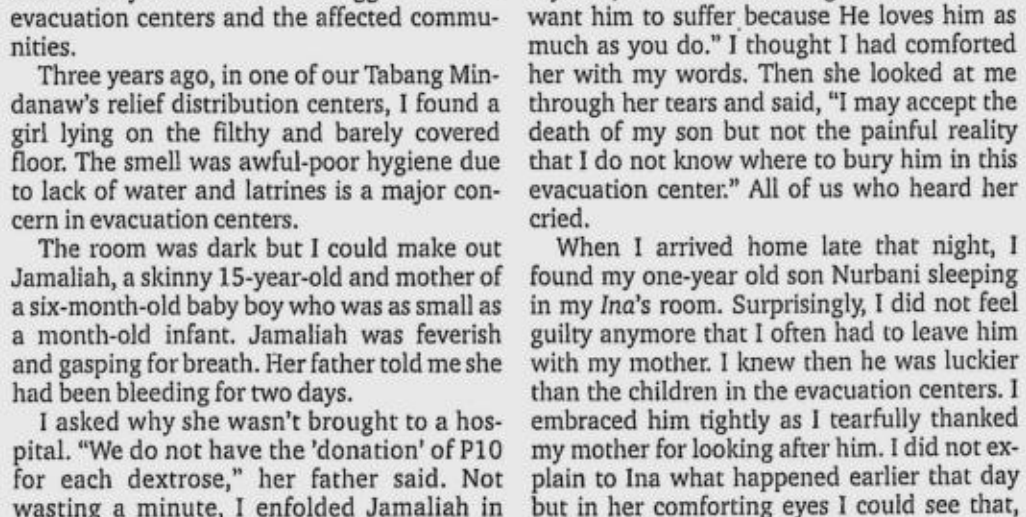
But what I saw instead were pain and grief. "God, you should have taken me instead," Jamaliah cried. "I killed him because I never gave him my breast. It was empty. I also didn't have money to buy condensed milk. Forgive me my son. Forgive me," she cried over and over again as she wrapped the boy in her arms, seemingly hoping God's miracle would bring her son back.

I was numb and motionless as she begged me to bring her son to the hospital. All I could say was, "Your son is an angel. God does not want him to suffer because He loves him as much as you do." I thought I had comforted her with my words. Then she looked at me through her tears and said, "I may accept the death of my son but not the painful reality that I do not know where to bury him in this evacuation center." All of us who heard her cried.

When I arrived home late that night, I found my one-year old son Nurbani sleeping in my *Ina*'s room. Surprisingly, I did not feel guilty anymore that I often had to leave him with my mother. I knew then he was luckier than the children in the evacuation centers. I embraced him tightly as I tearfully thanked my mother for looking after him. I did not explain to Ina what happened earlier that day but in her comforting eyes I could see that, like most mothers, she understood.

After three years, the nightmares have returned. When will they end?

(The author is a member of the Mindanao Commission on Women that is spearheading the Mothers for Peace Campaign. She recently received the Dove Bukod Tanging Filipina Award).



INSTEAD of safety, many refugees find humiliation, hunger, discomfort, illness even death in evacuation centers.

The Experts Speak Up!

Felix P. Nolasco, MD, FPSOHNS
Chairman, Department of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery (East Avenue Medical Center)
Public Relations Officer, PSO-HNS, Inc.

SARS AND THE ENT DOCTORS

For the past few weeks, TV, print, and radio have been issuing a barrage of news and information about the latest on the hottest dreaded disease in the world today. Every other person is probably just as confused as the next (medical practitioners included). More questions than answers abound, and theories have also blossomed. We can't deny that the threat of SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) has taken a significant grip over our stream of consciousness.

For the doubting Thomases out there, yes, SARS, by all accounts, probably really does exist. And no, Virginia, by all accounts so far, it will probably not wipe out the human race.

Last April 26, the Philippine Society of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery (PSOHNS) held its annual midyear convention at the Waterfront Hotel in Lahug, Cebu. One of the most well-attended and attention-grabbing lectures was the session on SARS, presided by a DOH Physician at the Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center.

The origins of the disease could be traced back to November 2002 in Mainland China. From there it spread to Hongkong through a health-care worker who stayed in a hotel, infecting 10 other people who were responsible for bringing the bug to Canada, Singapore, Vietnam, Ireland, and the US. Then, the rest is history.

What will happen to you if you are infected?

The latest global count as of this writing is over 6,000 cases in about 30 countries with around 400 attributable deaths. The real number of cases is probably much higher than 6,000 due to the reason that mild cases will most likely be missed by the official count. From this, we could probably take solace that the published estimates of the case fatality rate (percentage of infected patients who will actually die from the disease) is probably less than 3-4%. It was also estimated by Hongkong authorities that around 10-20% of identified cases will probably be serious (and will require ICU confinement), while the 80-90% will probably have nothing more serious than the "usual flu."

SARS: Preliminary Clinical Description

- Incubation period (time it takes for an infection to be symptomatic or be noticeable): 2 - 10 days
- Prodrome (initial symptoms before it becomes "full blown"): fever with chills, headache, malaise (general feeling of weakness/tiredness), myalgia (painful muscles)
- After 3-7 days: dry, non-productive cough or difficulty of breathing
  - *10-20% of cases in Hongkong required intubation (placement of a breathing tube) and the use of a ventilator (breathing machine)

How do you know if you are "probable SARS?"

The symptoms of SARS are very non-specific and the following symptoms have been observed (not necessarily all-together):

- High fever (>38°C)
- Dry cough
- Shortness of breath or breathing difficulties
- Headache, muscular stiffness, loss of appetite, malaise, confusion, skin rash, diarrhea

Does the list look familiar? Does it sound just like the "usual flu?" "Non-specific" means that the symptoms could be found in many other disease conditions and is therefore not unique to SARS.

Because an accurate diagnostic test for SARS is still in the process of being developed, The Centers for Disease Control initially came out with the following definition of "probable SARS":

- Respiratory illness of unknown etiology with onset since February 1, 2003 and the following criteria:
  - Measured temperature >100.4°F (>38°C)
  - 1 or more of the following: cough, shortness of breath, or difficulty in breathing
  - Travel within 10 days of onset of symptoms to an area with suspected or documented community transmission of SARS

  OR
  - Close contact within 10 days of onset of symptoms with a person under investigation or suspected of having SARS

"Travel" in the above definition means:
- Resident of an area with known community transmission of SARS
- Airport transit in SARS affected countries/ Stop over in SARS affected countries

"Close contact" in the above definition means:
- Having cared for
- Having lived with
- Having had direct contact with **respiratory secretions &/or body fluids** of a patient suspected of having SARS

Who is susceptible to SARS?

So far, the vast majority of "confirmed" cases are previously healthy adults in the 25 - 70 year old range. On a positive note, many experts cannot explain why **children do not appear to be very susceptible to "serious SARS."** In fact many are "baffled" that there are only very few cases among children less than fifteen years old. Some Infectious Disease experts are hypothesizing that the unique reaction of children to the standard MMR (mumps, measles, rubella) vaccine might offer some kind of protection against Corona virus infection, although this still needs to be proven. However, there are **no grounds as of the moment** to recommend that we start vaccinating adults with MMR.

An interesting and believable theory being floated around as to why SARS is not really that widespread yet in the Philippines is that the dry summer heat makes it difficult for the virus to be spread.

How do I prevent SARS from infecting me or my family?

Maintaining a good diet, taking body fluid precautions, using disinfectants and antiseptics, and wearing masks and other protective clothing are the body's first defense against most diseases. Thus it is always advised to adhere to this regimen regularly. However, no cure or preventive measures in the form of tablet or even injectable drugs, have yet been proven effective to help prevent/cure the SARS infection.

We'd like to hear from you!

Text us your answers to the following questions at 0917-8PFIZER (0917-8734937) or 0918-9PFIZER (0918-9734937) and get a chance to win a Pfizer gift pack!

1. Have you been taking adequate measures to prevent SARS? Y N
2. Have you consulted a specialist about this? Y N

To answer, text PFI (space), ENT (space), 7 (space), your answers (space), your name (space) and your complete address.

Example: PFI ENT 7 YN Paul Reyes 8 Macopa St., Project 7, Q.C.

Join now and win a special Pfizer gift pack! Lucky texters can get the chance of winning free samples!

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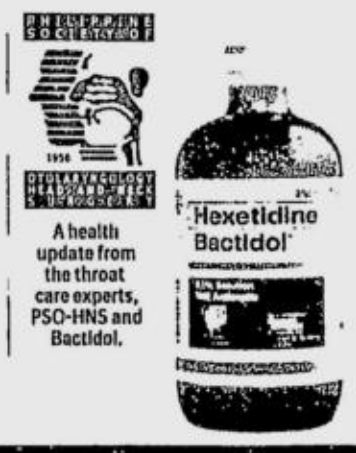
Should you have any questions about ENT or comments regarding this column, please email to Pfizer ENT (bactidol@pfizer.com). You can also text 0917-8PFIZER (0917-8734937) or 0918-9PFIZER (0918-9734937) and type in PFI (space), ENT (space), your question or comment.



A health update from the throat care experts, PSO-HNS and Bactidol.

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Nu Skin's Epoch Baby premium products include Baby Epoch Babassu Liquid Powder and Baby Epoch Hibiscus Hair and Body Wash. Made of delicate ingredients, Epoch Baby products cater to baby's everyday skin care needs. Buy this set and get a free magazine and Scion Hand Sanitizer.

Nu Skin's Aroma Sign fragrance comes in Fire, Water, Air and Earth variants. Purchase any of these fragrances and get a free Mother's day card.

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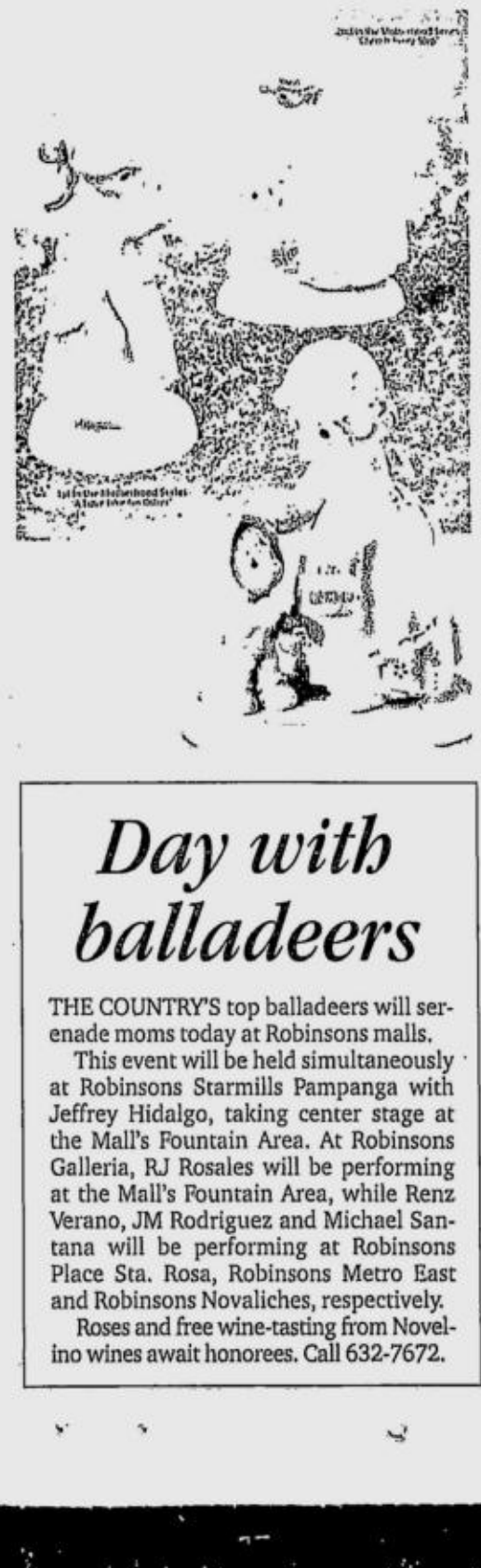
Precious Moments is distributed by Imperial, house of the best European furniture, porcelains and gift items. Visit any Imperial branch at the 2nd & 4th levels of SM Megamall, Shangri-La Plaza Mall, 6750 Ayala Branch, Landmark Department Store, Glorietta, Rockwell, SM Megamall Fancyland and SM Centerpoint Fancyland; or call (632) 635-7542 to 43.



Day with balladeers

THE COUNTRY'S top balladeers will serenade moms today at Robinsons malls.

This event will be held simultaneously at Robinsons Starmills Pampanga with Jeffrey Hidalgo, taking center stage at the Mall's Fountain Area. At Robinsons Galleria, RJ Rosales will be performing at the Mall's Fountain Area, while Renz Verano, JM Rodriguez and Michael Santana will be performing at Robinsons Place Sta. Rosa, Robinsons Metro East and Robinsons Novaliches, respectively.

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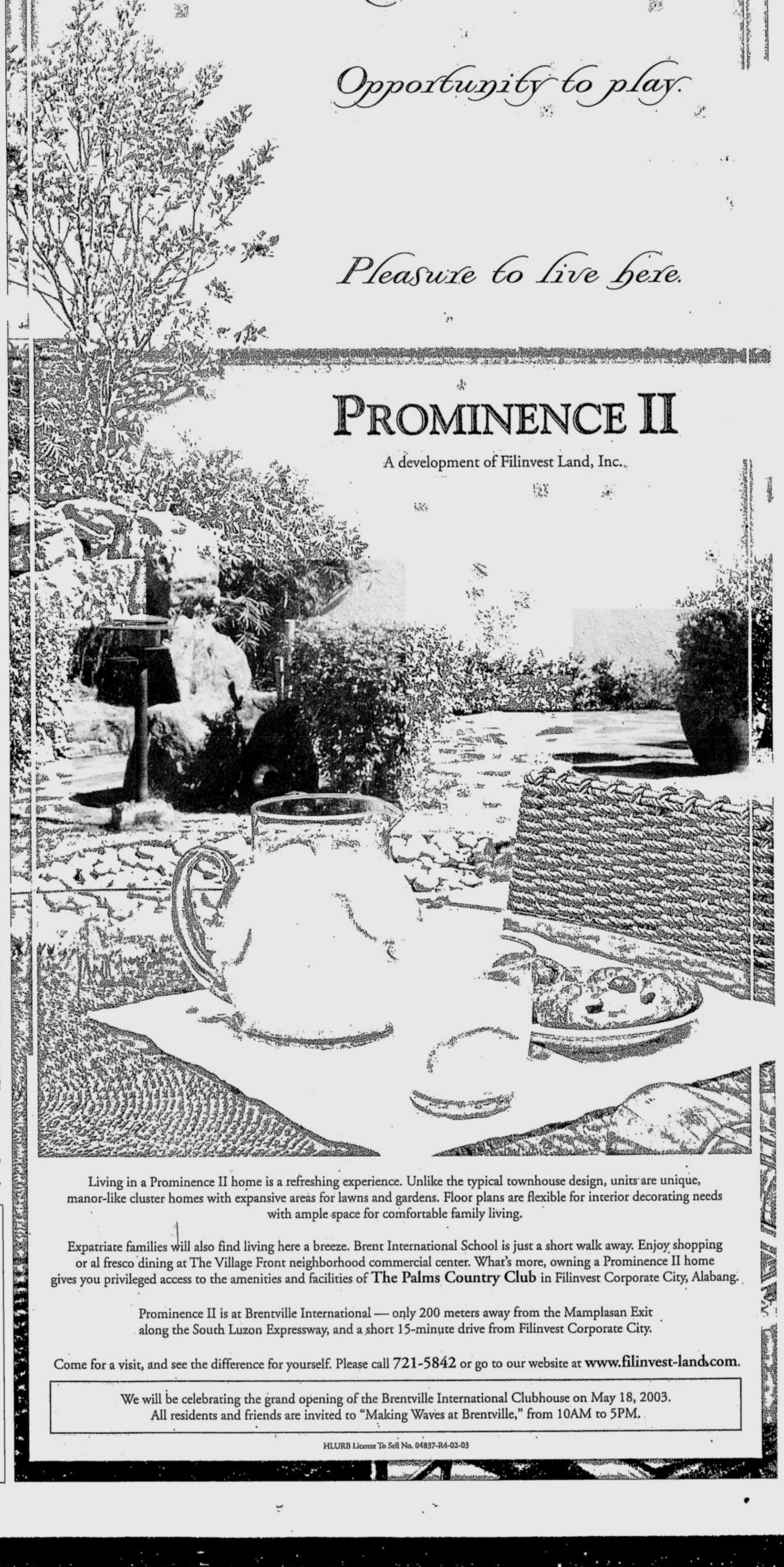

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All residents and friends are invited to "Making Waves at Brentville," from 10AM to 5PM.

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MOTHERS of different religious and ethnic origins unite for peace and women's empowerment. From left: Vice Mayor Nena Twalang, T'boli; Irene M. Santiago, chair of the Mothers for Peace Campaign; Betty Colmo Gobal, Obo-Manobo; and Baicon Cayongcat Macaraya, Maranao

Mothers are suing for peace on behalf of the innocent victims of the Mindanao conflict—the children

IRENE M. Santiago (seated, 2nd from left) and Margie Moran Floirendo (seated, center) spearhead and the MILF back to the negotiating table.

'May nanay ba si (Secretary) Reyes?'

By Linda B. Bolido

BAICON C. Macaraya is confident, articulate, and straightforward. Flanked by other articulate, confident, outspoken women, Macaraya, a former law student and mother of two young children, held her own, describing compellingly the problem in Mindanao and the aspirations of other mothers like her. She is a woman whom many Filipinos do not think exists—she is a Muslim who speaks up about what is right and does what she thinks is right.

As she participated in a press conference and open forum to announce the launching of Mothers for Peace, an advocacy group pushing for an end to the conflict in Mindanao, the only thing that set her apart from fellow women activists Marietta Goco of Sambayanihan, Lorna Kapunan of the Women's Business Council, Inday Santiago and Margie Moran Floirendo of the Mindanao Commission for Women and Joji Bian of the Mindanao Business Council was her *kombong* (headdress).

While men incessantly talk about peace as they fiercely wage war, the women, effortlessly and quickly, bonded despite the distance separating them, symbolically linking their hands together to appeal for and on behalf of what mothers care most about—the children—and to do something more concrete than rhetoric about advancing the peace objective.

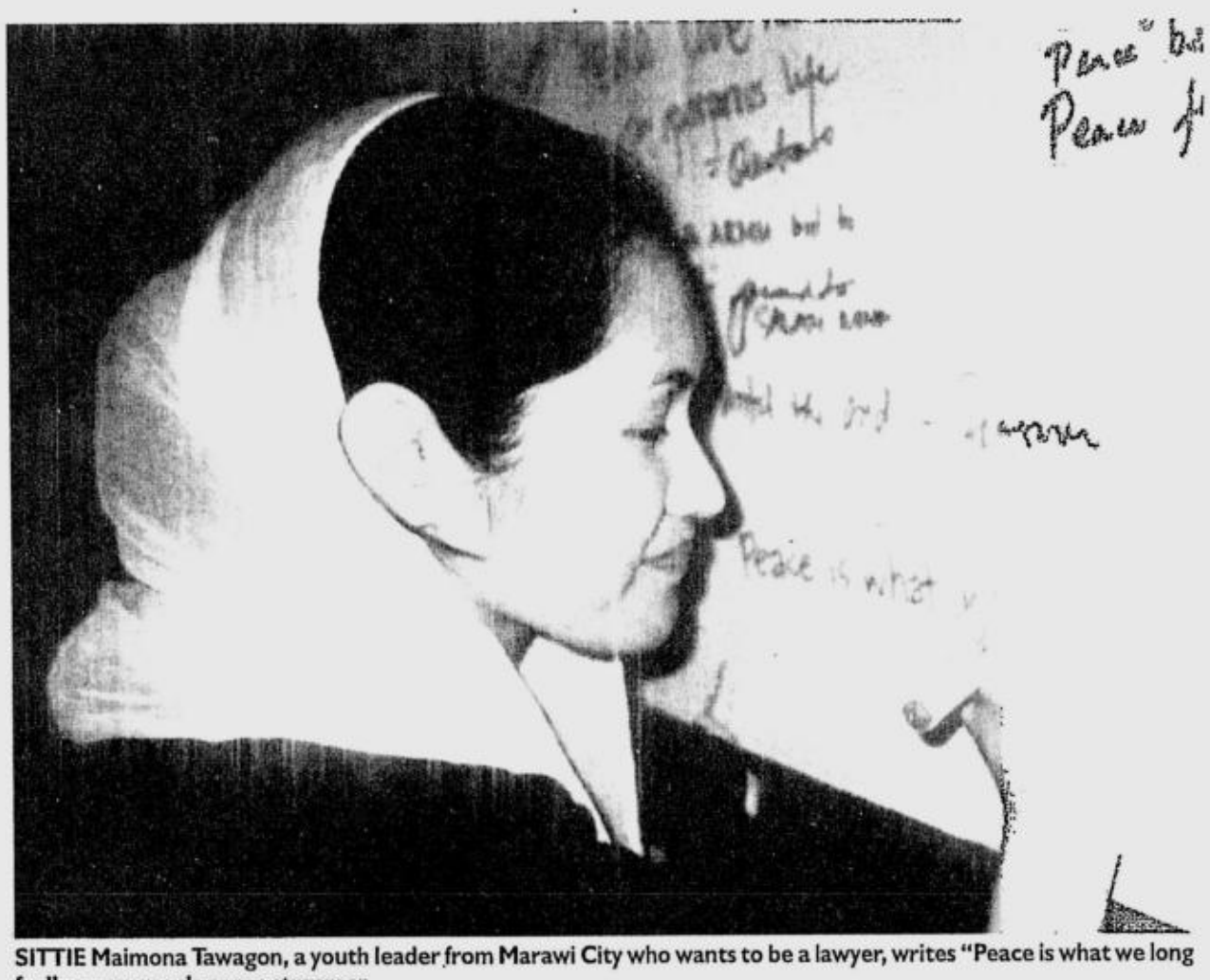
At 5 p.m. today, Mother's Day, the group will launch a nationwide initiative to bring the cause for peace to every woman who cares for children. The launching of the Mothers for Peace Initiative, which will include the reading of a manifesto, will be held at the Liwasang ASEAN in the Cultural Center of the Philippines complex on Roxas Boulevard.

The symbol of the campaign combines the internationally recognized peace color of blue and the dove. Sunday's event will officially mark the start of an educational roadshow with women's groups all over the country talking to their sisters to explain the history of the war, try to bridge the gap between the Muslim minority and the majority of the Philippine population and, above all, enlist support to save more children from being innocent and helpless victims of the protracted armed conflict.

Costly war

At the press conference, Macaraya, occasionally overcome by emotion, pointed out that the price of the war in Mindanao was not simply the loss of lives of combatants from opposing sides. It was also whole communities being forced to abandon the security and stability of their homes for crowded evacuation centers, kids growing up believing that violence was an inescapable reality of life, and women helplessly watching their children succumb to disease and even death.

"Before, poverty was said to be the cause of the war in Mindanao," Macaraya said. "But now the war is causing the poverty in Mindanao." Hundreds of families had been displaced in North Cotabato, Lanao del Sur and Lanao del Norte, that had borne the brunt of the armed conflict. Macaraya, who received the Dove Bukod Tanging Filipina Award, said mothers were hoping that they would soon have no need to leave their children in the evacuation centers, where they were unable to do much to keep the kids safe and healthy.



SITTIE Maimona Tawagon, a youth leader from Marawi City who wants to be a lawyer, writes "Peace is what we long for" on a women's peace streamer.

BAICON Cayongcat Macaraya (right) works with Christian and indigenous women like Betty Colmo Gobal (left) in organizing mothers for peace.

Macaraya said, in Islam, mothers were enjoined to be nurturers, role models to show by example and to teach their children to be good citizens, and peace mediators. But they lost the opportunity to assume their responsibility in the chaotic and crowded evacuation centers.

"Traditionally, Muslims are proud and would not beg but now (their situation) has virtually turned them into beggars," she added.

Floirendo, one of the prime movers of the campaign, said the hundreds of thousands of evacuees lived a life of total dependency. Still, they lacked food, medicine, clothes and adequate shelter. Many children had died as a result of the deprivation.

The former Miss Universe is a mother of grownup kids, and she has been actively promoting Mindanao to the rest of the country. Contrary to claims by both fighting sides that casualties of the war were mainly combatants, she said, "Unarmed civilians are (among) the casualties and they outnumber the armed combatants."

She added that mothers were in the forefront of the peace advocacy campaign because they wanted a future for their children. The women were also at the forefront of rehabilitation and development efforts before hostilities broke out anew. Before the bombing of Pikit, North Cotabato, efforts to maintain peace were succeeding, she said.

The women would rather that both sides negotiated and talked no matter how long it took than "debated" on the battlefield.

Santiago said the advocacy campaign was meant to give the Mindanao conflict a human face. They wanted other Filipinos to see that the war was not just an armed struggle between opposing forces but was about shattered lives and dreams and possibly lost generations of Filipinos.

Not good for business

Bian, a mother of three, said the business sector on the troubled island had always been pro-peace. "We have seen the effects of war. [It] has never been good for business because it creates an environment of insecurity and fear. It does not encourage business to grow."

She said, in Mindanao, the economy had been repeatedly undergoing cycles of boom and bust. "We must break the vicious cycle and give children more stability."

Kapunan said the government was acting *pikon*. A lawyer, she said the *pikon* was always *talo*. It would not do to be *pikon* in the courtroom and it would not do to be *pikon* on the battlefield.

Goco said the government did not have to establish its strength anymore in the Mindanao conflict. It was strong all the time. Unless it believed the bullet was the only answer to the problem, it should return to the negotiating table.

Santiago said, through the campaign, they would enjoin mothers to do something to promote peace in Mindanao, to take one small political action. They can send text messages to President Macapagal, Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes, defense advisers and consultants and high-ranking military officials and send feelers to leaders of the Muslim groups involved in the conflict.

The movement would ask mothers to participate in radio and television talk shows by phoning in their opposition to the war or by writing letters to the editor, asking both sides to resume negotiations.

"We want to show there is a constituency for peace," Santiago said.

Of course, the movement would like mothers to talk to other mothers on behalf of young victims. They would want to start with someone in particular. So the women asked, "*May nanay ba si* Reyes?"

E-mail the author at lbolido@hotmail.com.

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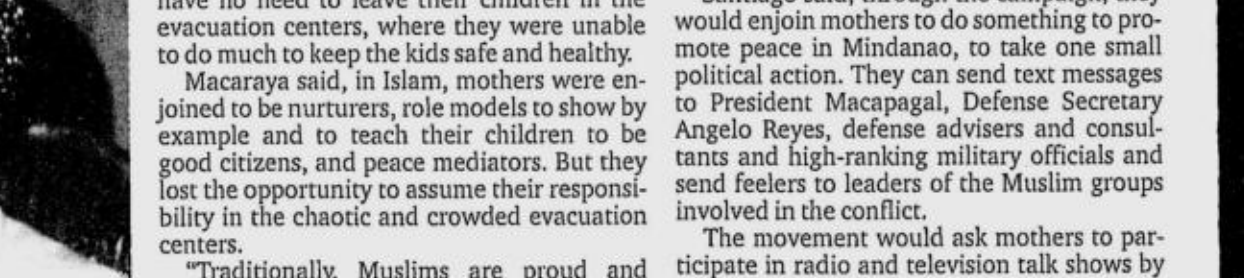

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the Mothers for Peace Campaign to bring government

A Muslim woman sets the record straight

By Linda B. Bolido

BAICON C. Macaraya was a law student at the Mindanao State University (MSU) in Marawi City when the war in Mindanao flared up anew.

The mother of two—a four-year-old boy and a nine-month-old girl—quit her studies, left her kids with her mother and volunteered to help in the ongoing relief and rehabilitation work, particularly in evacuation centers where thousands of displaced families, even entire communities, have been driven by the fighting between government troops and Muslim armed groups, primarily the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

She has also been actively involved in advancing the cause for peace, encouraging both warring sides to return to the negotiating table and forge a more lasting solution to the protracted conflict. She is currently among the more prominent figures in the Mothers for Peace, an advocacy group campaigning for an end to the Mindanao war.

As a Muslim woman, Macaraya might seem to many who have stereotyped Islamic women as submissive, imposed upon and deprived of their rights, to be an exception, a rarity.

> Islam does not oppress women and is, in fact, a liberating religion

Not so, according to the 31-year-old who was recently chosen one of Dove's outstanding women and who has been an activist even as a student, listing among her accomplishments sitting as MSU student regent and chairing the Mindanao Student Councils Alliance.

Macaraya said, contrary to what many believed, Islam did not oppress women but, in fact, upheld their rights and put them at par with men. But women had to know their rights as well as their limitations. They had to be educated.

In Islam, she said, "women were regarded so highly and were known as peace mediators." They had the job of nurturing society and were put on a pedestal. She said the high regard accorded to women sometimes turned to overprotectiveness, which could explain why many were more seen than heard.

"It is not true that (Muslim) women have fewer rights. Islam is a very liberating religion. Nothing in the Koran (the Muslim's holy book), says that women are inferior to men. Allah created men and women as two halves of a whole," Macaraya, who is married to a businessman and former student activist, said.

Islam dignified women, especially mothers. She said mothers were so highly considered in Islam that children were taught to ask for forgiveness from them three times, and only once from the fathers. It was also taught that paradise lay at the foot of the mother because she was the nurturer.

Macaraya was tutored well by another woman, her own mother. During the press conference launching the Mothers for Peace advocacy, she kept quoting her own mother. The 60-year-old Bae Pindolangan Bani had only an elementary education and attended Arabic school, but she seemed to possess wisdom that no formal schooling could give.

Macaraya said her mother brought her children to believe that peace was the only way to go to heaven. Peace could be achieved if there was justice.

Although the family lived through the earlier war waged by the Marcos administration, Bae Pindolangan instilled in the kids that they must live for other people. "My mother always said a pain in the thumb was felt by the whole body," Macaraya said.

In joining the current peace efforts, the young mother said women had to say something. She said other Muslim women were supportive of the Mothers for Peace cause because among the women on the troubled island, they were the ones who suffered most.

E-mail the author at lbolido@hotmail.com.

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TUNA TERIYAKI IN HONEY-SESAME SAUCE

INGREDIENTS
300 g. San Remo Spirals cooked al dente
½ kg fresh tuna, cubed
¼ cup Kikkoman Teriyaki sauce
3 tbsp oil
1 cup peas
1 can (227g) pineapple chunks
1 pc red bell pepper, cut into strips
1 pc green bell pepper, cut into strips
1 pc yellow bell pepper, cut into strips
¾ cup carrots, grated

HONEY-SESAME SAUCE
½ cup honey • ½ cup oil
½ cup rice wine vinegar
½ cup pineapple juice
1 cup chunky peanut butter
¼ cup sesame seeds, toasted
2 tsp sesame oil
1 tsp salt • 1 tsp pepper

METHOD
1. Prepare honey-sesame sauce: Combine and mix ingredients for sauce until smooth. Set aside.
2. Marinate tuna cubes in Kikkoman Teriyaki sauce for 20 minutes.
3. Cook tuna cubes together with marinade in oil for 3 minutes. Do not overcook.
4. Add in peas and bell peppers. Cook for 2 minutes.
5. Add in pineapple chunks and carrots. Cook for 1 minute.
6. Add in prepared honey-sesame sauce.
7. Combine sauce with cooked pasta. Serve immediately.

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The Mommy memo

INSPIRED by "The Mommy Guide," we asked some celebrity moms for advice to fellow moms.

"The Mommy Guide" is not really new but it helps mothers make sense of the particular predicament called Life with Children. Its 401 pages are chockful of tips from over 250 moms and other experts.

Susan Bernard, communicator and educator, put together this book because when she became a first-time mother at age 39 there was no one source book that could answer many of her questions.

Bernard solicited advice from 125 experts—teachers, doctors, book sellers, nutritionists, travel agents, cleaning services—and tips from 125 mothers who spoke from their own experiences.

The result is a compendium of information and hints on everything, from activities, amusement parks, babysitters, bedtimes and birthdays to eating out, grocery shopping and hobbies to toilet training, toys, vacations and the Zen of motherhood

"The Mommy Guide" is available at National Book Store

To: Mothers of sons

From: Mila Magsaysay Valenzuela, ***mom of two boys, Ralph and Mike***

"Boys don't have as much patience with their moms as girls. For them to open up to you, keep the communication lines open, but don't nag, and don't be pushy. There are times when you have to check on them, but don't pry. When they get to the age when they don't want to be around you, accept it. Those are changes they have no control over. It's not rejection. Then when they mature you become friends again. You can talk to them again. This is the best time."

My mom said, 'It's tough to be a child because adults watch your every move, scrutinizing everything you do. Think about what it would be like if someone watched and commented on you to that degree. Ignore what you can.'
—'The Mommy Guide'

To: Mothers of daughters

From: Monique Siguion-Reyna Villonco, ***mom of three girls, Dara, Cris and Tere***

"Allow your daughters to see you as a strong and complete person. Don't compromise on the small things because later you'll begin to struggle with doing the right thing on the bigger issues. They will be the primary influence in the lives of their own children. Let them know that it is always easier to do the right thing. Big, little, private or public—just do what's right."

To: Mothers of several children

From: Tina Maristela-Ocampo, ***mom of Bettina, 14, Selina, 12, Juliana, 8, and Emilio, 5***

"Your children are different from one another. Have different parenting styles to suit their individual personalities. However, remember to shower them with the same amount of love. Be careful when you divide your love among them—there's a big tendency to show much to the ones that you're not having a hard time with."

Take care of yourself first, and you will be able to properly take care of your children.
—'The Mommy Guide'

Leave your compulsiveness at the hospital when you check out. There isn't time to be perfect, look great, have a clean house and a sweet, adorable baby. The less you expect of yourself, the more relaxed you'll be. What's most important is to hold and love your newborn.
—'The Mommy Guide'

To: All mothers

From: Imelda Cojuangco, ***mom of Marvi, Tony, Ning, Choy and Mikey***

"Take your calcium. Don't wait until it's too late. I'm taking calcium three times a day now. I have a back problem. At first, we were insisting on surgery, but my doctor in New York said no, because my bones are too soft and brittle as an effect of having to take steroids for my allergies. I have physical therapy now twice a day at home; we videotaped my therapy at Stanford University so we could do it here. I have to go on the treadmill for 30 minutes. Even when I'm in pain, I refuse to be inactive. I wish I could do more."

To: Mothers of teenagers

From: Lulu Tan Gan, ***mom of Jes, 16***

"Be an older friend, not a parent who thinks she's always right. We are the past, they are the present and future. Hear them, feel them."

From: Berry Marfori, ***mom of Rina, 19, and Isa, 16***

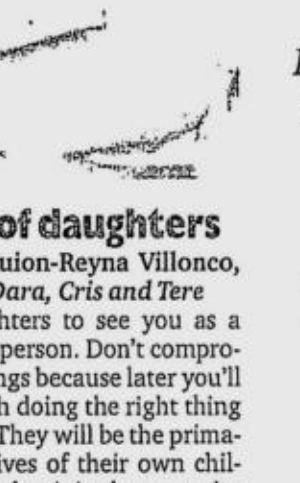
"Open your house to their friends. You get to know your teenagers best when they're with their friends. It's an opportunity to keep in touch with what's going on in their lives."

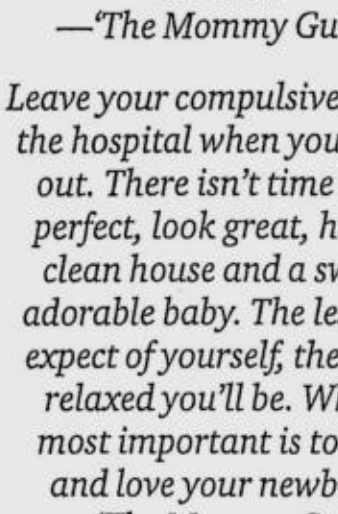
Enjoy all stages of childhood. Don't rush to get to the next stage, because it will come in due time. Remind your children often that they are special and you love them.
—'The Mommy Guide'

To: Mothers of an only child

From: Margarita Fores, ***mom of Amadito***

"Teach an only child to be other-centered and to be always aware of the welfare of others. Because our tendency as parents of an only child is to smother them and focus so much on them. We must be extremely deliberate when building their awareness, care and concern for others."





My mother gave me the most important advice that got me through the baby problems. She said, 'Do what you have to do to make things okay.'
—'The Mommy Guide'

From: Irene Martel-Francisco, ***mom of Isabel***

"Teach your only child to be strong and independent; at the same time, that means learning to let go. My dreams won't be hers, our likes may be different, and I can't cry her tears."

To: Mothers of children in the "tween age' (6-12)

From: Vivian Ng, ***mom of JaqJaq, 12, JepJep, 10, and JonJon, 2***

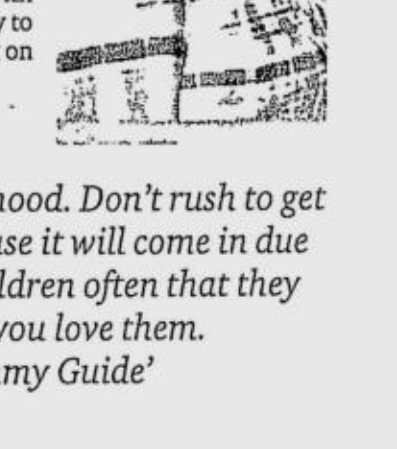
"Give as much quality time as you can to them with the goal of imparting your values and beliefs to them—not just through preaching but (more importantly) through leading by example. Children this age value our opinion, but are beginning to explore the use of their own judgement so we as parents must discuss with them what we think is right or wrong with what they've done. But we, too, should prove to them that we live by the same rules."

To: Mothers of kids in their Terrible Two's

From: Sheree Gotuaco, ***mom of Bianca, 6, and Sandro, 2***

"Ignore when they whine or have their tantrums. It's the attention that will make the tantrum recur."

Expect to feel overwhelmed some of the time.
—'The Mommy Guide'



Give Mom pampering she needs

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Stress and the never-ending task of "keeping it altogether" for kids and spouse may have put a few lines on her pretty face so surprise her with a gift that's out-of-the-ordinary. Give her a gift certificate from Urban Spa, the trendsetting oasis that "puts the aaahh in spa."

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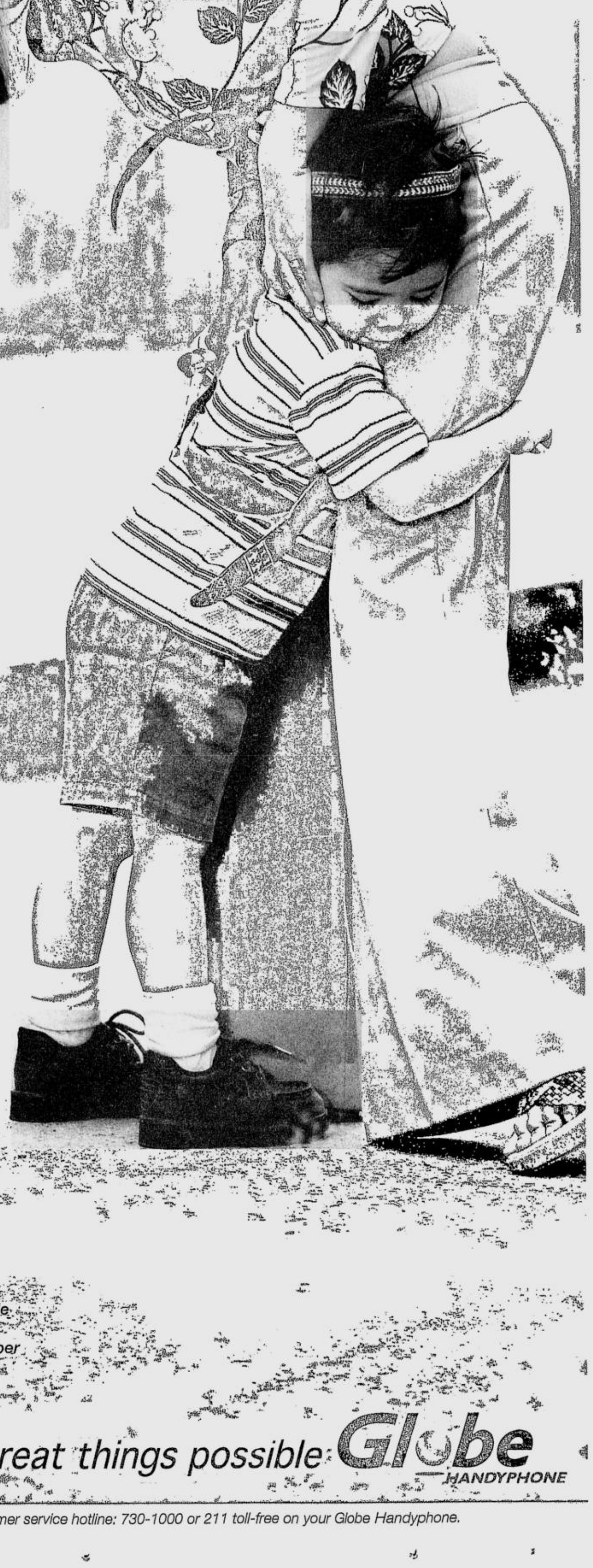

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

WHAT'S INSIDE

Paulette Magdangal /E2

Rosario Roco /E4

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Backstage mom, without tears

MOM Paulette with daughter Jolina

Text by Leah Salterio
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

JOLINA Magdangal's dad, Jun, may be a formidable presence in the entertainer's well-managed career. But perhaps unknown to many, the young star's mom, Paulette, plays an equally important role in managing Jolina's career.

While Mommy Paulette has stayed mostly in the sidelines, she has nonetheless been doing her part in guiding Jolina through the dog-eat-dog show biz world.

"When her dad is busy, I accompany Jolina to her appointments," Mommy Paulette offers. "In decision-making, when it comes to Jolina's career, we always weigh the pros and cons. We get the consensus of the entire family."

Mommy Paulette doesn't mind being tagged as Jolina's mom. In fact, she's proud of it. She's proud that her daughter has maintained a wholesome image, from the time Jolina was a teenager up to now that she is 24 years old. She is also happy that Jolina has kept her feet on the ground, in spite of the fame and the fortune.

"There are other young stars around who started living in with their boyfriends or became pregnant at a very young age," Mommy Paulette says. "Some of them even went into drugs. But Jolina managed to stay away from all that. She is perhaps the only young star who has yet to be kissed onscreen by any of her leading men. Even when it comes to that, we are very particular about it. *Nakatutok kami talaga sa* shooting. We want her to preserve her wholesome image."

Mommy Paulette's role in Jolina's career is, indeed, versatile. From joining meetings and acting as "secretary," she also coordinates with designers on what dress or gowns Jolina should wear. She knows Jolina's daily schedule and activities. She also reads the scripts before giving them to her daughter.

"In the meetings, it's Jolina's dad who does most of the talking, while I simply sit quietly, listen, absorb everything, and later analyze it for all of us," Mommy Paulette offers. "Even in buying anything, we assess Jolina's finances first before she spends anything."

The mom knows that Jolina's biggest expense is gasoline for her Roadtrek—around P2,000 a day. She monitors her daughter's pay slips, and has kept a ledger of Jolina's expenses from the time the young star started in show biz in 1990. An accountant helps Mommy Paulette when it comes to the withholding taxes and the VAT (value-added tax) for Jolina's income.

After 17 years of working with Land Bank as assistant manager of the credit department, Mommy Paulette opted for early retirement in 1994, when Jolina was 15.

"I couldn't just let her go with a production assistant, a maid or an *alalay* all the time," Mommy Paulette says. "I had to give up my own career to be with her."

> Because she keeps a tight rein of the career, finances, investments, and everything else of perennial teenager Jolina Magdangal, don't expect Mommy Paulette Magdangal dolls to be produced anytime soon

PAULETTE Magdangal

Mommy Paulette and Daddy Jun, who have been in the corporate sector for almost two decades, invest Jolina's considerable earnings in several nest eggs, which they hope would guarantee Jolina a comfortable life even if she fades from the entertainment scene.

"We believe in long-term planning and discipline," Mommy Paulette says. "We record all of Jolina's earnings in a ledger and we discuss her financial standing every week, so she knows where the money goes. It is a family decision."

Herself a marketing graduate, Mommy Paulette admirably knows everything when it comes to Jolina's career, from the time her daughter started in show biz. The mom remembers Jolina's first TV role, the titles of her movies, her leading men, her TV shows, her songs.

"Most of Jolina's films are with Marvin," she says. "The only three which aren't with Marvin are 'Kung Ikaw ay Isang Panaginip' with Rafael Rosell and Leandro Muñoz, 'Tunay na Tunay' with Robin Padilla and 'Home Along da Riber' with Dolphy."

Now that Jolina is hosting "The Working President," which chronicles the activities of President Macapagal-Arroyo, Mommy Paulette easily rattles off the channels where the program is being aired.

"It's on Channels 4, 9, 13 and 21," she says. "Channels 2 and 7 are the only ones that don't air the program."

Mommy Paulette says that at home, Jolina is not a *señorita*, despite her celebrity status.

"There was a time we didn't have a maid, so all the household chores were delegated," Mommy Paulette says. "I asked Jolina what she wanted to do, clean the house or wash the dishes. But she couldn't sweep because she is allergic to dust and her voice might get affected, so she was the one who washed the dishes.

"In our trips abroad, Jolina is the one who fixes her clothes, packs her suitcase and does her own hair and makeup. She doesn't need an *alalay*, a makeup artist or a hairdresser. She saves a lot of money doing things on her own."

Mommy Paulette goes with Jolina for engagements in the provinces or abroad. She also goes malling with her daughter, usually at Robinsons Galleria or SM Megamall.

"I can see that she's really well-loved," Mommy Paulette says of her daughter. "When we're in the mall, people look at her. Some of them stop to greet her, ask for her autograph or pose for photos. She always obliges.

"When she did a solo concert at Araneta Coliseum last March, we were really surprised how she filled up the big venue. The audience came from all walks of life and from all ages, from a 2-year-old to an 85-year-old grandfather who is my uncle."

Mommy Paulette believes Jolina got her talent from her Daddy Jun, who also sings. Daddy Jun's grandfather was Horacio Morales, a former Sampaguita Pictures actor.

"Jolina is very expressive and I think she took that after me," Mommy Paulette says. "I was also *galawgaw*, like her, when I was younger. My friends used to call me 'Debraliz.' Some of them said I looked like Rosemarie Sonora."

Mommy Paulette and Daddy Jun put up Jolina's Fashion Gallery, which sells Jolina's trendy garment line, dolls and accessories. The boutique is below their office in Project 6, QC. The office, managed by Jolina's elder sister Miel, handles all the bookings and engagements of the young star. Jolina's Fashion Gallery has branches in Cebu and West Covina in California.

Mommy Paulette insists Jolina has been in show biz long enough for them to take all the intrigues and controversies about her in stride.

"The only thing that got my ire was when it was rumored that she was pregnant with Robin Padilla's child," Mommy Paulette says. "At that time, their movie 'Tunay na Tunay' had just been shown. But I guess Robin needed hype for his next movie, so *ginamit ang* name *ni* Jolina. That was very unfair."

With Mommy Paulette's guidance over her daughter's career, plus the support of the entire family, it is no surprise why Jolina has maintained her popularity on TV, recording and the movies all these years.

My mother's magic hands

By Michael G. Umaming
Contributor

> She was no doctor or shaman, but her hands alone could make the pain go away

I MISSED my mother terribly when I had this lower back pain that immobilized me recently for several days.

My mother had magic hands. She got it from her grandfather who had gone to places as far as the *loco* (lowland) because of his power. A child in Bontoc was named Fayatin (from Bayatin) to honor this medicine man who was believed to have brought the blessing of fertility to couples who had long been childless.

The old man mixed spiritism with his traditional knowledge of medicine. He would call upon the spirits of the *kamiling* (plants) to get rid of anyone's pains. He talked to loose rocks in pathways as he fixed them, knowing that people sought him because they stepped on those loose rocks. He spoke even to little creatures that entered his house during the night, giving them light and requesting them to become bearers of good fortune to people they would come in contact with on their way home.

People say my mother learned much from her grandfather.

My severe back pain started when I was in high school. I couldn't rise up from bed. I never got to see a doctor but my mother's hands performed their magic on me.

As mother rubbed oil on my back everyday, she would say, "*kapposek sika isnan lana ta menkitotoksil ka* (I rub you with this oil that you may go away)." One time she implored the pain to live in her body instead, if it wasn't ready to go away.

As she finished rubbing my back one evening, she went out to build a bonfire and muttered something. I knew she was trying to give a message to unseen creatures that if I had hurt them, they must forgive, for my actions were never done with malice.

On the fourth day, I got up out of bed like the pain had never been there.

The pain never bothered me again until I had this bad fall in college, which led me straight to the hospital. All the examinations delivered negative results. Still, the pain came back occasionally.

Recently, I had to go to the doctor again. The pain now radiated to my left leg, numbing it. I couldn't remain standing even for a minute, or walk beyond ten steps.

The doctor said it was a slipped disc, a condition wherein a small mass of elastic, gristle-like tissue located between vertebra in the spinal column ruptures and puts pressure on the nerves. I had to stay in the hospital, was put on traction, given strong drugs and underwent twice-a-day physical therapy. After three days with little improvement, the doctor advised me to go for a magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) procedure to confirm what was wrong with me. He also said I was a candidate for surgery.

The cost of the MRI, which was about P8,000 to P13,000 depending on the quality of the images, plus the thought of surgery, was very stressful for my family. The small amount we had set aside for any emergency was depleted immediately.

Still limping, I went to an Internet café to do some surfing on the topic. I asked opinions from people who had suffered under similar conditions. The most practical advice came from one who had actually gone under the knife.

"Try other medical alternatives," he said. "You should go for surgery only when you've begun wishing you were dead because of the unbearable pain. Meanwhile, prepare for the worst, because it may still recur."

I tried traditional reflexology, acupuncture, chiropractic and pranic healing. I followed medical advice and did exercises on movement and posture, remembering all the while my doctor's warning against body-bending. I later settled for the first two methods, availing of them every other day. My condition improved considerably.

Still, the pain bothers me even as I write this. I wish my mother weren't that old and sickly, so she could lay her hands on me again, like she used to.

I remember one of the psychological tests I took in college. I was asked to describe my mother in three seconds. I said she was "the best *lola*."

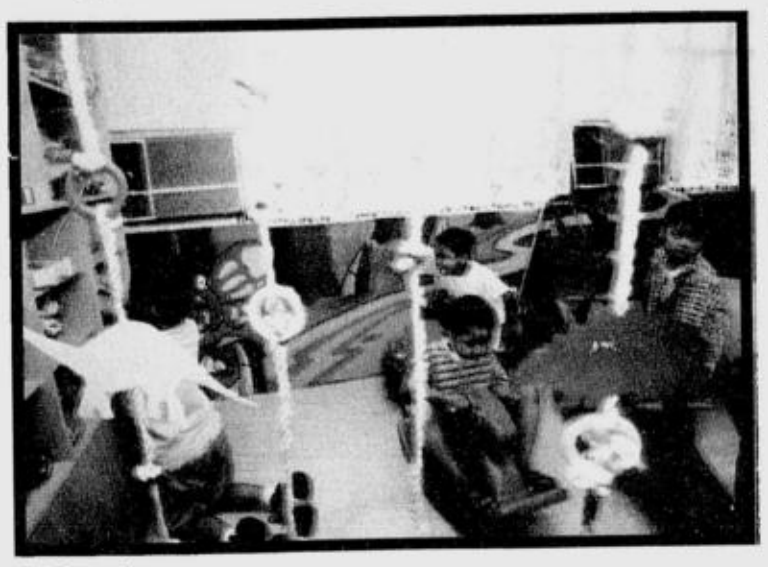
Why *lola*? Because what I had in mind was the image of children gathered around their unschooled grandmother, while she told them stories in her beautiful sing-song voice. Or grandchildren running to their *lola* when they hurt themselves, believing she had magic powers to wipe or blow the pains away. Just like my mother.

If the question were asked of me again today, I'd say my mother was the best doctor there ever was. Nobody ever had that magic touch. Nobody ever took my pains that solemnly.

MIGI at age 2

Migi on my mind

MIGI'S Angels; L-R Ate Pia, Mom Cathy, Pam, Cricket and Gina



KIDS at play

A mother reflects on the pain, and purpose, of a son's untimely death

By Cathy Babao Guballa

I was 33 and six months pregnant when my four-year-old son Migi died almost five years ago.

Overnight I felt like I was 33 going on 43. Death has a way of doing that to people. Losing a loved one changes your entire perspective on life and makes you age—emotionally, hopefully, not physically—in ways that would not have been possible had there not been a loss in the first place.

In the span of three months, I lost a beloved son and was given the chance to parent another baby boy. Like riding an emotional roller-coaster, Leon came shortly after Migi died and was God's miracle to our family. Plump, wide-eyed and blessed with a smile that could light up a room, Leon's sunny disposition is clearly God's manifestation of His faithfulness, when you stop to consider the amount of grief I was carrying in my heart the last three months that he was in my womb.

A gift and a mission

Every child that God blesses us with is a special gift. Before Migi and Leon there was Pia, the daughter who knows my heart best and who understands me completely. She too has been forever changed by her little brother's early loss. Though she was only seven when Migi died, she is the one who remembers him best. The little jokes, his nuances, she carries them all in her wise 12-year-old heart. Like me, loss has changed her too. The experience has imbued her with a maturity and a sensitivity uncharacteristic for one her age.

Lately, I've been thinking a lot about Migi and the many changes that have taken place in my life. When he died I was happy keeping house and raising the kids. After he left us, I wracked my brains trying to find a meaning to his loss, and in so doing found my mission.

Almost five years to Migi's death, there are now eight corners in different hospitals throughout the Philippines that give comfort to other sick children by providing them a haven for play through Migi's Corners that Migi's Corner Foundation, with the help of Manulife, has built. Now, Migi continues to live on in those play corners and in the heart of every child who goes there to find momentary joy while in confinement.

Oftentimes we do not understand why God allows pain and suffering to come into our lives. But in His wise and infallible ways, the reason reveals itself in His time, not in ours.

Moving on

After Migi's loss I went back to school and am now working on a thesis that tackles the experience of parental grief in the Filipino family context. At the same time I teach a course on the psychology of grief at Ateneo, hoping that a new generation of young people will learn to understand that the experience of loss, in whatever form, is not a completely bad thing and that there are steps one can take to move on after the pain.

However, when occasions such as Mother's Day comes along, I often find myself in a melancholy state, perhaps much like many other mothers who have lost their children too. In the last five years, through God's grace, I've done what I could to move on and make the most of the pain that came with losing a child.

My heart continues to ache when I bump into old classmates of Migi who are now robust and rambunctious nine-year-olds. When I see them, I heave a sigh and wonder how he probably now looks like in heaven. The sight of dinosaurs, whether on books or on film, never fails to bring on a flood of memories. Migi loved those beasts dearly and knew each one's name by heart.

I expect this sadness to visit me for the rest of my life. I have learned to embrace the memories when they come. Whenever his birthday or death anniversary comes along, I try my best to set up activities that will keep his memory alive.

Finding the purpose

I've reached a point when I can remember without tears, though they certainly pour forth when I watch a movie involving a child's death or read a book or article with a sick child in it. It is ironic that in losing Migi, I found the gift of myself. Perhaps this is the Lord's comfort and Migi's gift to me. The great sadness that came with his leaving led me to discover places of strength within myself that I didn't know even existed.

The experience of loss, whether we are mother, wife or child, hopefully turns us in to better persons. I sincerely hope and pray that after my grief work is done, I would have become a better and more patient mother, a more understanding wife, a kinder daughter and a more compassionate woman because of my personal loss. In doing so, Migi's early death would have found its purpose. His loss would not have been in vain.

Email the author at cathyguballa@yahoo.com

The most important things I learned from mom:

Love God, country and family.
Do what you feel is right.
Moisturise.

Thanks mom.

Dove
FACIAL FOAM

STANDING, from left: Christina, Sr. Rosario, Josefina, Ramon, Sonia and Raul, Cho, Stephanie, Lourdes, Abigail (husband of Josefina) and Ding. Seated, from left: Sulpicio, Concepcion and Rosario.

ROSARIO with her son Ramon

Solid as a rock

The mother of presidential frontrunner Raul Roco is a winner in her own right

Text by Rowena C. Burgos
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

AT 86, Rosario Sagarbarria Roco has seen and rocked in her arms generations of babies. Her hands have prepared countless favorite dishes. She has performed back-breaking duties of washing the laundry and bathing dirty kids, cleaning up the mess they make. She has also knelt a thousand and one times to pray for those she loves—her calloused knees show that.

She would like to believe that because of her efforts, family life and love in the Roco clan has continued across the generations.

After graduating from high school, Rosario, already 20 years old then, taught Reading, Writing and Arithmetic to Grade 1 students. "Of the 3,000 (teaching) applicants who took the exams, I placed 30th," she said.

After two years of teaching, Rosario married Sulpicio Roco, a neighbor whom she had known for only a few months.

Before she met Sulpicio, Rosario had a boyfriend of three years, a sailor. "We had no communication while he was away. And his parents didn't like me. So I thought, 'To hell with them, he's not the only fish in the ocean.'"

Aware that Rosario's relationship with the sailor was on the rocks, Sulpicio expressed his wish to marry Rosario. Their families met to plan their wedding at Metropolitan Cathedral in Naga City, the shrine of Our Lady of Peñafrancia. The affair was attended by families and relatives.

Made in heaven

After their wedding, they resided in a farm. Sulpicio asked Rosario to stop teaching. "He reasoned, '*Kaya nga ako nag-asawa para may iiwanan at dadatnan sa bahay*.' And I thought that instead of going on maternity leave every other year, I chose to resign."

When her school supervisor learned that she was resigning, "He joked about losing his beautiful teachers because of love and marriage," said Rosario, who describes the marriage as "made in heaven."

Although preoccupied with household chores, Rosario found great pleasure in her children's company.

Josefina, 62, is a former accountant. Raul, 61, is a former senator and education secretary. Sr. Rosario, 59, is with the Daughters of Charity. Ramon, 57, is the Bicol regional director of the Land Transportation Office. Cho, 55, is the congressman of the 2nd district of Camarines Sur.

Ding, 53, is a director of Shell. Christina, 51, is the assistant dean of Colegio de Sta. Isabel's Department of Music. Stephanie, 47, is a nurse. Lourdes died of lupus at the age of 19, right after graduating from college. Concepcion, 41, is a "special child," who loves listening to music all day long in her room.

Special mom

There must be something pretty special about a mother who was able to raise 10 children amid poverty. She always reminded her kids that what matters is who they are and not what they wear.

"I didn't condition their minds that we had money," Rosario said. "I prioritized whatever they needed in school. I bought them watches when they were already in college. During lunch time, they go home since their school was very near our house."

And she proudly notes that she didn't have any problems with her children as they were growing up. "By 9 p.m., they were all in the house. I didn't have to look around for them," said Rosario who encouraged her kids to invite their friends to their house. "I think it's the result of breastfeeding, which I practiced until each child was one year and three months."

To discipline, Rosario hit them with a stick whenever they misbehaved. "When two kids quarreled, both were hit, regardless of who was right or wrong, especially Ramon and Raul who often teased their siblings." Sulpicio, on the other hand, would spare the rod and shout instead.

"But we've all loved them equally, justly and sincerely. And we often told our children to respect each other's rights."

She watched her children grow older, get married and start a family. "My husband would often tell our children and their spouses, '*Ang* Mama *ninyo* 10 *ang naging anak, pero hindi ko siya nakitang* harassed. *Kayo, isa pa lang, hirap na.*'"

Habit of happiness

A joyous woman and an eternal optimist, Rosario's words are punctuated with an easy flowing laughter.

She and her children have the habit of happiness, so even if the world was not entirely sunny, it was also not exactly sad.

"*Sabi nga ng asawa ko, ihip lang daw ng hangin nagtatawanan na kaming magiina*. They always see the sunny side of things. Even when I'm angry, they would find a way to make me laugh. My kids are not happy-go-lucky because they all grew up responsible."

Her children also share her passion for reading books. "They all love to read, except my husband. But we all know how to speak Spanish."

But one thing they didn't get from Rosario was her disciplinarian trait. "They're lax with their children." She now has 20 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren. Her husband died of kidney ailment in 1984.

Strong woman

At 86, Rosario does the laundry, cross-stitches, cooks when her helper is absent and goes to Metropolitan Cathedral everyday. "My wallet has been snatched twice on my way to the church."

Nevertheless, she enjoys her duties as a member of the Peñafrancia Association in Naga City. She even declined the invitation of Raul and Sonia to join them in Bohol last Holy Week due to church activities. The association has an ongoing Marian exhibit at the Peñafrancia Museum and is now organizing a Marian procession on May 30.

Whenever her children visit her in Naga, she cooks their favorite meals of fish and vegetables.

Through the years, Rosario says, her children have remained close to one another. Last December, the Roco clan had a reunion. Sometimes, it's held on her and Raul's birthdays. "Whenever they have a get-together, '*di magkahiwa-hiwalay*."

Concepcion lives with her while Ramon and his family reside near her two-story house on Barlin Street.

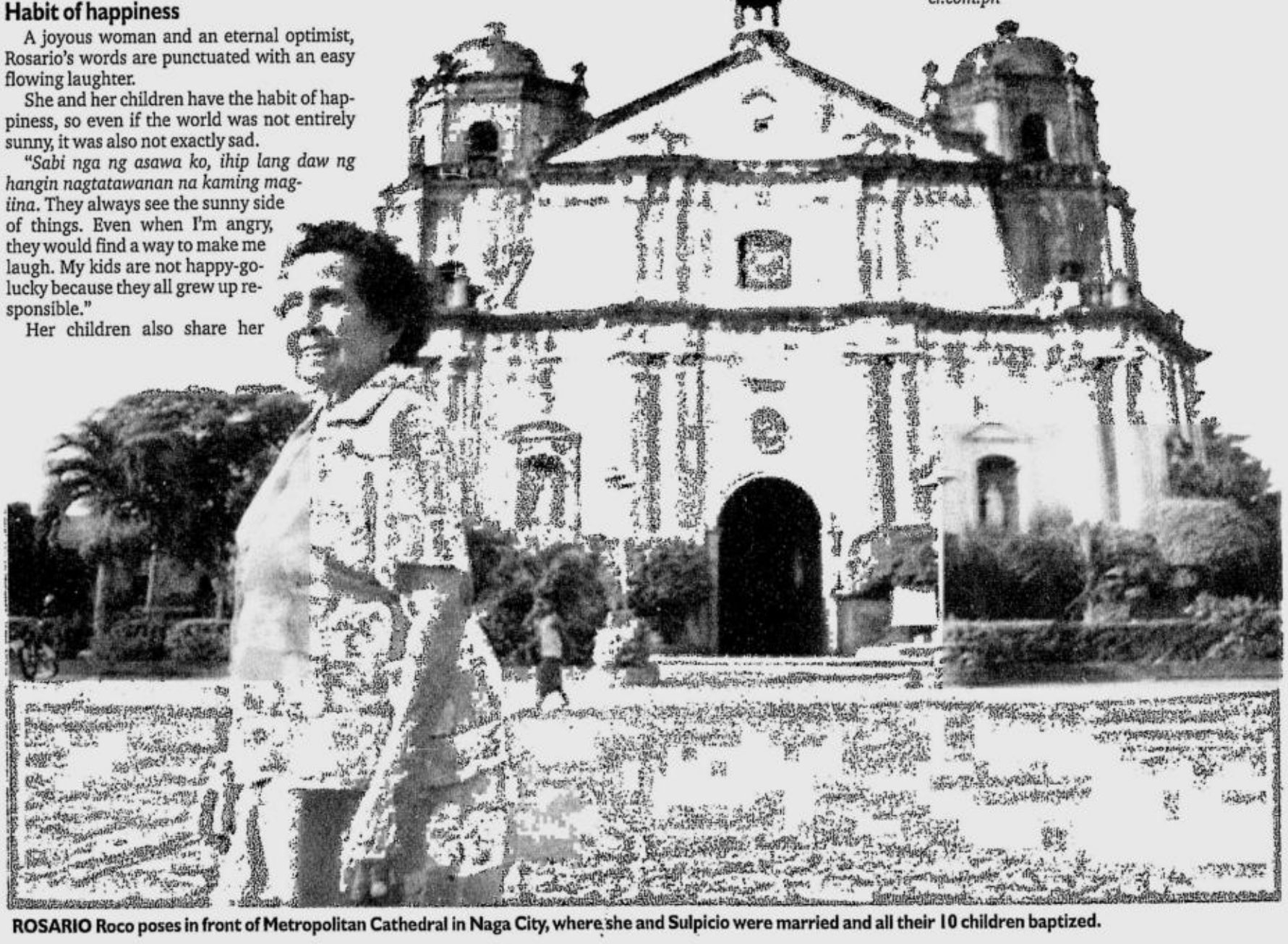
If she was able to go to college, Rosario says, she would have studied Medicine. "Sadly, none of my children wanted to become a doctor."

But she didn't even dream of Raul and Cho going into politics. "They went into politics when their father died. I only asked if they had the money for election expenses. But it was the least of their worries for many people wanted to help them."

It was the late Sulpicio who was "broken-hearted" because he had expected that Cho (who stayed in a seminary for eight years) and Ding (who entered the seminary when he was still in Grade 6) to become priests.

"On my part, I just let them do what they want. And I feel blessed and thankful for their lives well lived," Rosario said.

E-mail the author at rburgos@inquirer.com.ph



ROSARIO Roco poses in front of Metropolitan Cathedral in Naga City, where she and Sulpicio were married and all their 10 children baptized.

Take mom on a nature trip

BRING Mom to Palawan for Palawan Nature Experience (P-A-X), The Legend Hotel's exclusive tour offering. Make it a weekend of family fun and bonding experience for Mom, Dad and the entire brood.

Mom will love the Underground River Adventure that features a boat ride that will take you into the recesses of an 8-km cavern to witness stalactite and stalagmite formations housed within. If she's fascinated by the deep blue and would like to go on a discovery trip of the islands, the Honda Bay Island Hopping tour is perfect for her. A good choice for mothers who like peace and quiet and enjoy a good view of the sea is a visit to Nagtabon Beach. You may also opt for the Narra Excursion, a whole day tour to Narra Town's different tourist spots.

PAX tours include round-trip airfare via Air Philippines, three days and two nights stay at Legend Hotel Palawan, round-trip airport transfers, all meals, a city tour, and a nature experience tour of your choice. Also available are land arrangements, for as low as P4,599 net/person, for those who prefer to arrange their own airfare. Special rates for children and groups of five and above are also offered. Call 638-9256 and 58 or log on to www.experiencepalawan.com.ph

Musical groups pay tribute to mom

AT POWER Plant Mall in Rockwell Center, musical trios will provide special music to pay tribute to all mothers followed by Ryan Cayabyab's Boys Choir at 4 p.m. and a children's ballet group after that.

Whole families can preserve their Kodak moment with mom at the Kodak booth.

Special food and beverage offerings will likewise be available. Health a beauty options will be there to serve h

As a bonus, the first 100 children who bring their mothers to the Power Plant Mall will be given special treats.

Search for outstanding parents ongoing

SINCE 1980, the Golden Mother and Father Foundation (GMFF) chaired by Sr. Vickie Dizon, has been bestowing honor to mothers and fathers through the Alay Kay Inay and Itay Awards.

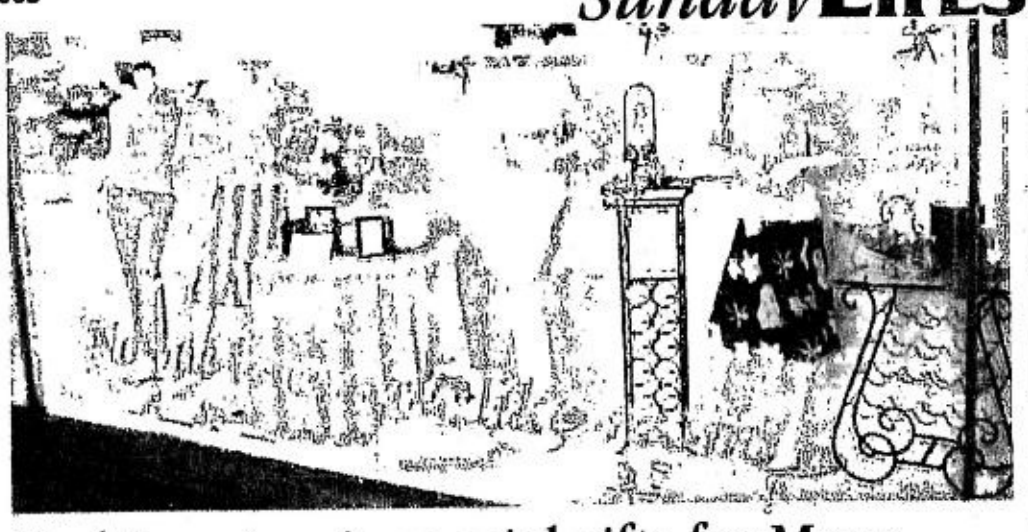
Dizon, who assumed the presidency of the GMFF in 2001, was a former awardee herself of the Alay Kay Inay Awards in 1993, 1996 and 2000.

The Alay Kay Inay awardees include Sen. Loren Legarda, Mrs. Gina de Venecia, Boots Anson Roa, Celia Diaz-Laurel, Sen. Santanina Rasul, Justice Cecilia Palma, Justice Leonor Luciano, Sylvia la Torre, Armida Siguion-Reyna, Helen Gamboa, Caridad Sanchez, Secretary Mita Pardo de Tavera and Rev. Dr. Sonia Y. Lim.

The Alay Kay Itay awardees include former President Fidel V. Ramos, Sen. Aquilino Pimentel, Sen. Jovito Salonga, former Vice President Salvador Laurel, Mayor Benjamin Abalos and Justice Ricardo Puno.

The awarding ceremonies will be held at Henry Lee Irwin, SJ Theatre, Ateneo de Manila University on June 22. Now on its 23rd year, the Alay kay Inay and Itay Awards will select deserving Filipino mothers and fathers from various sectors of society, to be given the following citations Ina/Ama ng Bayan Award, Celebrity Mother/Father Award, Golden Mother/Father Award (conferred to mothers/fathers who are 50 years old and above), and Ideal Mother/Father-Achiever Award) conferred to mothers/fathers who are 50 years old and below who are successful in their chosen field of profession). The awardees will be chosen in the following fields: Government and Public Affairs, Arts and Entertainment, Socio-Civic/Religious Sector; Medicine and Allied Sciences and Sports; Education, Law and Judiciary; Business and Industry; Agriculture and Forestry; and Media and Journalism.

Nominations are now being accepted. General criteria are: should be at least 50 years old (except for Celebrity Mother/Father and the Ideal Mother/Father Award categories); must have at least a child or children who has/have good standing in their profession; and should have a wholesome family and good social reputation. Send a resume together with four 2x2 pictures to Golden Mother and Father Foundation (GMFF), 405 United Nations Ave. corner Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila or call 404-2818/2302; e-mail gmff@yahoo.com. Deadline of submission is extended until May 22.



Fashion store's special gifts for Mom

THIS month, Rustan's gives the widest choices in gifts and treats for mothers. The department store offers the latest in fashion for women with in-house labels and international names to cater to every mother's taste. Rustan's has also set special discounts on select items for the Mother's Day weekend for Criselda, Jill, Amichi, Karen Kane, Sinequanone and a selection of ladies accessories.

At Rustan's Makati, lectures for expecting mothers have been set at the store's children's department for the weekend, while an Aromatherapy Festival, to be conducted by Fleur Essence, will also be conducted at the store's Essenses. The boutique also prepared special gift packages ideal for tokens.

Rustan's Makati's Home Division has also prepared a cooking demonstration to be conducted by Tefal and a lecture on flower arrangement with artist Rachy Cuna.

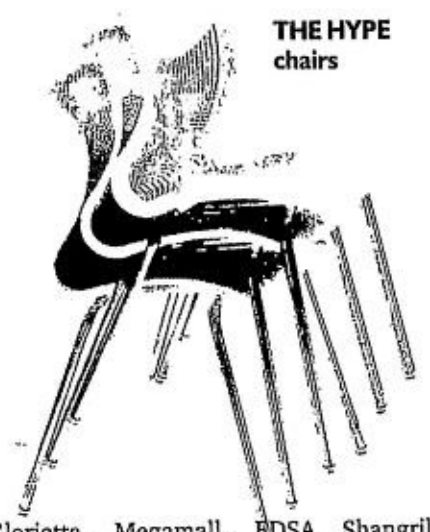
Furniture, accessories sale

PLAY & display gives a five-percent discount on sofa beds, which come in various designs and colors. You can never go wrong with their Siesta, Cielo, Moscow, Nitara and Russel.

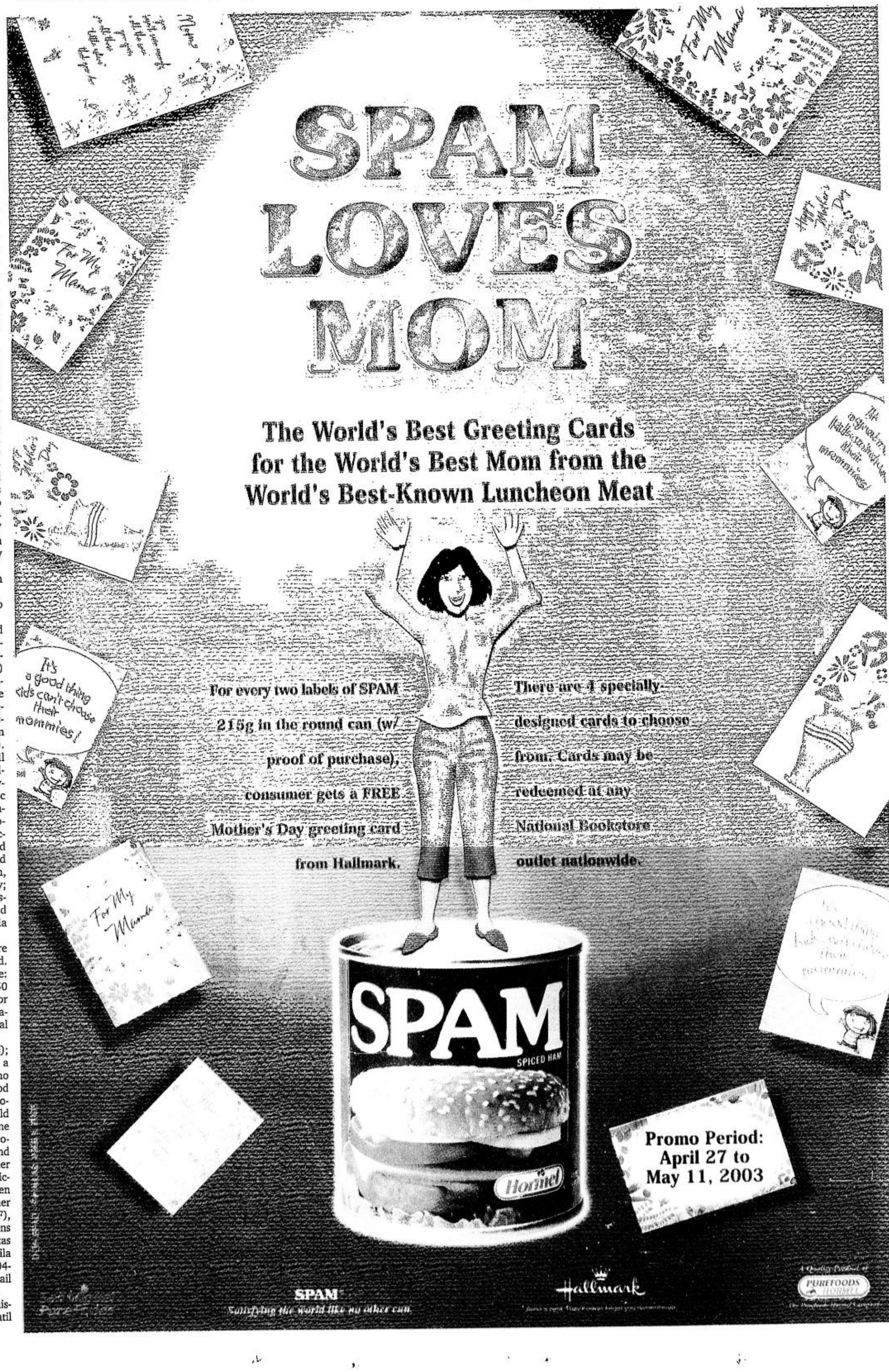
Play & display has a new line of stackable chairs at 30 percent off. Edge is a barstool made of leather seat and chrome legs available in blue, yellow, red, black and white. Carnival is made of polypropylene shell seat and chrome legs and comes in red, black and white. Hype, also of polypropylene shell seat and chrome legs is available in the same colors as Edge. Carnival and Hype may be utilized as dining chair for homes and restaurants or chairs for offices, waiting area.

Prices of all regular items like sofas, recliners, tables, chairs and other home decor are slashed by 10-15 percent. Selected furniture and accessories are sold at 50 percent off.

The limited offer is available only until today. Play & Display stores are located in Glorietta, Megamall, EDSA Shangrila Plaza, The Power Plant, Festival Mall, Alabang Town Center, SM City North, SM City Pampanga, Pavilion and 6797 Ayala Avenue.

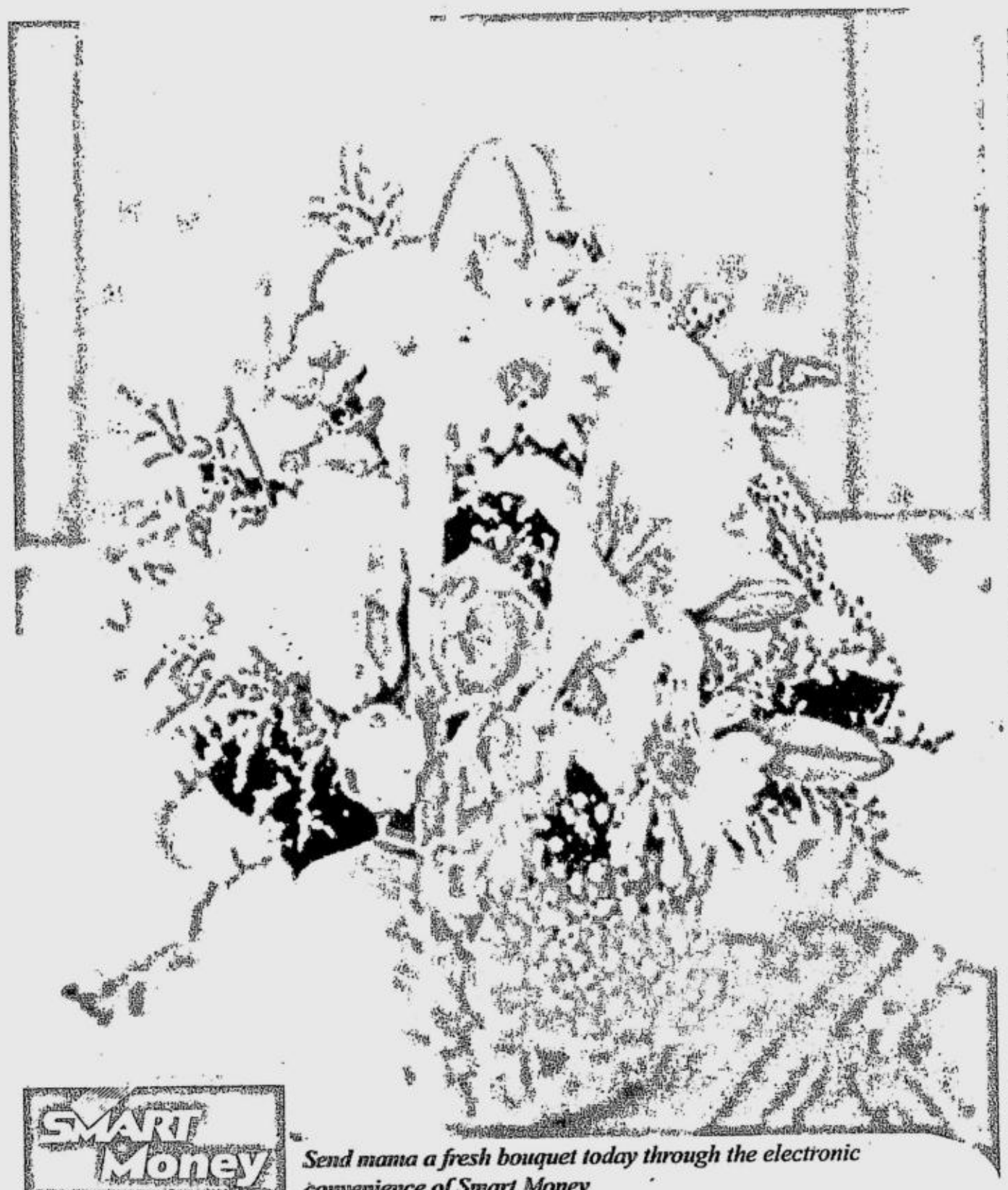


THE HYPE chairs



Wherever You Are in the World Mama, SMART Says

Happy Mother's Day!



SMART Money

Send mama a fresh bouquet today through the electronic convenience of Smart Money

Smart IDD – the clearest, most reliable line to mama anywhere in the world she may be.

Technology is a force that hurtles most of us in the Western world towards progress, far-off lands, and worldwide economic cohesion. Globalization cannot exist without the technology that has spawned generations of clued-up, sophisticated neophytes in search of adventure, love, and better wages: From the enterprising taho vendor on the street, to the business executive in his pneumatic, height adjustable office chair, we've all traversed from our place of birth towards distant places and different cultures.

So what about the globalized Filipino? One only needs to read the daily newspapers to realize how importantly we regard our Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and their dollar-denominated input. We are a nation of exported talent. We hear of fathers and mothers separated from their children and unable to fully interact with their growing brood. Most of us think that our consciousness is still well entrenched in family values despite the multitude of good workers streaming from our shores. So how do we cope? How does one cope with the longing for his family thousands of miles away? How does one cope with the inevitable conflict in cultures and values? How does one cope with the loss of personal relations and the struggle to make ends meet?

These were some of the emotions conveyed by SMART's Mother's Day Commercial. The opening scene of the commercial shows an old album being flipped through by an old pair of hands. This poignant visual image is a reminder of our own 'Lola' and quite possibly our own sometimes selfish selves. Images like pictures are always so powerful because of the memories they express. In this commercial the pictures are of ourselves, the globe trotting individual, being remembered by someone we love. They also remind us of our own loved ones who have left us and haven't returned for a while. We feel those old hands like they were our own because we've all had a relative move away to a distant place.

Another powerful image in the commercial is of the Filipino familial home. The commercial shows a rustic, empty house filled with unused ornaments from days gone by. We've all been through our 'Lola's' house for the usual Sunday meal and it seems the older she gets the dustier and emptier her house becomes. The Filipino household is usually filled with Lolo, Lola, Father, Mother, Children, and Grandchildren running around, eating meals, and sharing an endless flow of amusing anecdotes. This is why one of the most powerful moments of the commercial is when the 'Lola' looks around to find no else around her. It's almost as if the pictures brought her into a wonderful dream only for the sight of an empty home to wake her up again.

The third compelling image in the commercial is of the 'Lola' taking a nap, old album clutched to her heart, and thoughts travelling to occasions of the past. We all try and travel through time when we're alone, especially when we're far from our loved ones. The longing induced by long winters and empty special occasions is what characterizes the modern Filipino over seas and over here. We all have a special bond with our families and our mothers most especially. Because of our need to travel and live in far off places, our mothers and our families live on only in our memories and in our dreams. The image of 'Lola' dreaming about us is a mirror image of ourselves dreaming about her.

Filipinos have succeeded in a variety of fields and industries all over the world. We are a people that can adapt to our surroundings and to different situations. Yet, we still cling to old values and family ties. The most common occurrence for Filipinos abroad is when a Filipino recognizes his countryman's native dialect. They then proceed to talk about which region they come from, what year they arrived, how long they were thinking of staying, what kind of adobo recipe they were using, and so on. You can instantly recognize where someone is from by the sound of his or her voice and by the kind of language they use. The power of your voice, the power of the sentiment it articulates, and the power of the other person's in return is a form of a communication that will never grow old, no matter what technology can do in the future.

And although modernity has brought many families apart, technology can bridge the gap by bringing us closer even if it is just for a fleeting moment. We may never recreate the family occasions of the past or the years of living harmoniously under the same roof; yet it's the feeling in our voice and the fondness in our hearts that truly matter to us and most especially to them.

There are millions of us out there who can reach their mothers anywhere in the world they may be on this special day through SMART's IDD service. There are countless OFW moms working abroad. With the widest coverage in the Philippines, the clearest reception, SMART gives all of us Filipinos the chance to reach our beloved mothers and our loved ones overseas. For only 40 cents a minute to most anywhere in the world, make sure you let your mama hear your loving voice on Mother's Day.

The Perfect SMART Buddy gift for Mama

Now, you can communicate with your own lola or other relatives thanks to SMART. From the original price of P9,390, SMART Buddy now offers the MMS-capable Nokia 3530 for a more affordable P7,990. Available until May 15, 2003 at all Smart Wireless Centers and TSI outlets everywhere.

You can send photos of yourself and your family to mama's new Nokia 3530 through SMART MMS, to let her know you're always thinking of her and you miss her. With SMART PolyTones, you can help brighten up lola's day with all kinds of ringtones as well.

It's even more affordable to keep in touch with lola thanks to SMART Buddy. Technology has made it such that you are just a text or phone call away. How hard could it be to tell lola how your day was? Wouldn't it be nice to just say "Hi mama, kumusta na?" every so often? A kind word, a simple greeting, a lifetime's worth of happiness. All with a few clicks of your celfone and SMART Buddy.

SMART Buddy GSM Pre-paid

Nokia 3530
Special Promo Price
from P9,390
now just P7,990
until May 15, 2003

ADVT.

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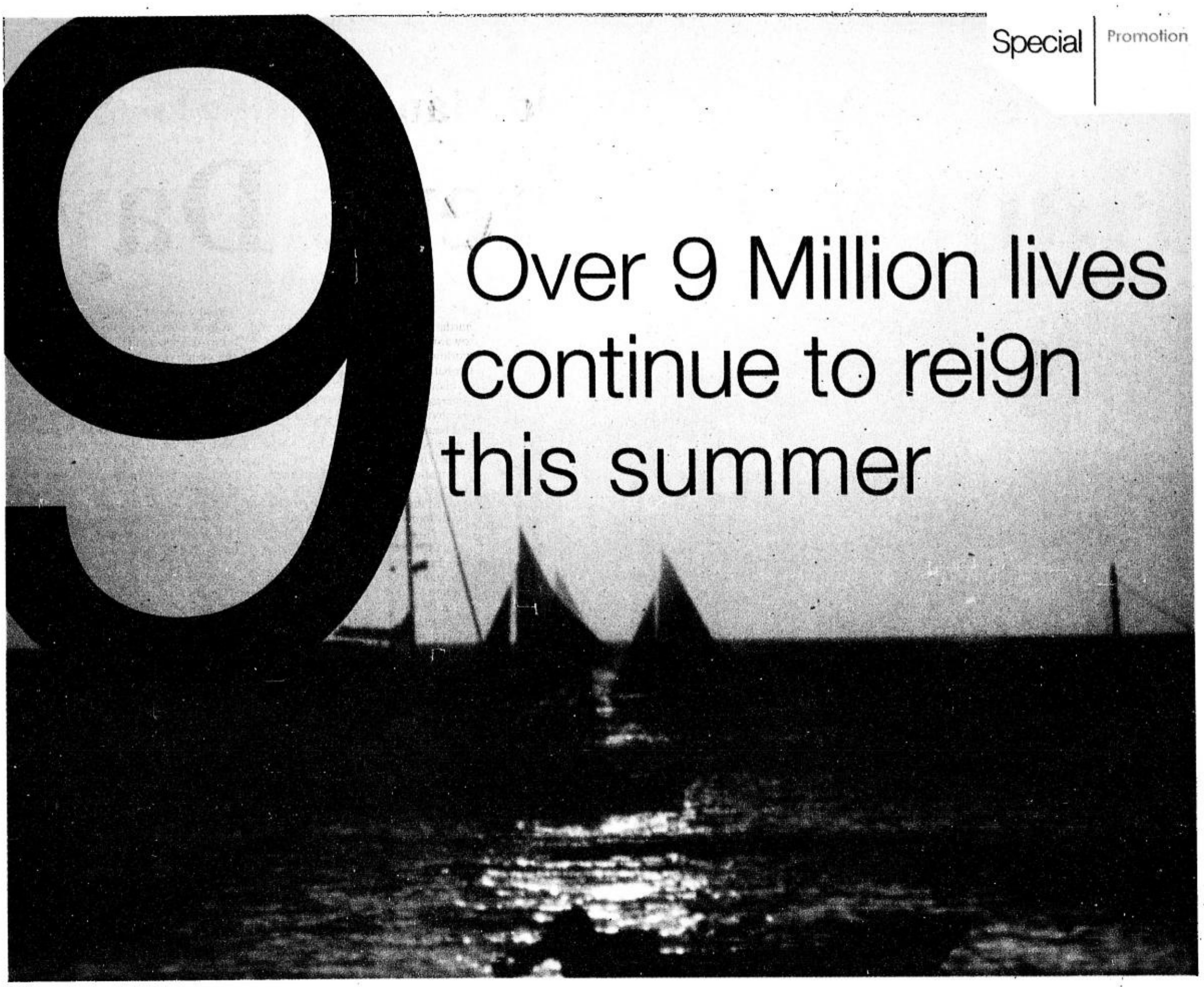
Over 9 Million lives continue to rei9n this summer



Holy Week in the Philippines was steaming hot this year especially in the eight designated hotspots where SMART gave their subscribers something to sweat about. The Philippines' leading wireless network celebrated their over 9 million subscribers milestone with their SMART Rei9ns campaign that encouraged vacationers from all over the country to sweat-it-out in a week of non-stop celebrations and promotions in Baguio, Subic, Batangas, Enchanted Kingdom, Puerto Galera, Boracay, Cebu and Davao. Those lucky enough to catch the celebrations were treated to these events in these hotspots.

The pristine white sands of Boracay were invaded by hordes of sun-seekers during Holy Week and they were treated to some uniquely engaging promotions that rewarded SMART subscribers and potential subscribers. The SMART Rei9ns booth offered a whole host of goodies for their visitors including the most affordable pre-paid phone kits and discounted SMART Buddy Nokia 3315, SMART Buddy Nokia 2100 and Talk and Text's Buddy 3388. New Buddy users were treated to free items such as Buddy tote bags, mesh bags, sunvisors, beach mats and caps. The more adventurous vacationers marked their holiday at the SMART Rei9ns booth with free Henna Tattoo on Saturday from 2-6 PM as well as free skin accessories. Those seeking respite from the sun sought shelter in SMART's special lounge for subscribers.

Big Fish brought the house down with their pumping, pulsating dance event Slinky while smooth house music was entertaining the crowds in Cocomangas on the 19th of April with Studio 23's Beach House Party. All these events encapsulated the real vibe of the island: hot, sweaty, and full of energy.

SMART Rei9ns hit Subic Bay with the Jam for Peace Concert last April 19, an event with Parokya ni Edgar and River Maya as the main attractions. A good crowd packed Remy Field as many of them enjoyed FREE concert tickets if they swapped their non-SMART SIM with a SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM, while existing SMART subscribers got FREE tickets if they downloaded the SMART logo into their cellfones. Meanwhile, the Amazing Phone was a hit in the Subic Yacht Club where tech-savvy cellfone users were 'amazed' by the phone's numerous useful features. All-in-all Subic warmed to SMART's brand of cellfone service by swapping their SIMs for SMART SIMs and taking home brand new Nokia 3315s, TNT Buddy 3388s, and Nokia 2100s.

In the cool mountains of Baguio, SMART sponsored bars Pilgrims, Cactus and Gimballs, heated-up their floors with fun-loving teens.

Sugar Beach in Bantayan was the center of celebrations for SMART Rei9ns in Cebu. SMART wooed the beach lovers as they swapped their non-SMART SIMs for SMART Buddy SIMs and were grateful for the OTA (over-the-air) reloading service. Free Cellfone Charging was a big-time hit in the beach where many people in need of a charge were left without an outlet or charger.

This created a warm sense of community within the SMART subscribers as Moms, Duds, Kids, Lolos, and Lolas all proudly wore the SMART Rei9ns sticker. SMART health buffs meanwhile, drew sports enthusiasts from all over the country to their well-attended Triathlon event.

SMART subscribers looking for some thrills and spills were treated to free tickets to Enchanted Kingdom. Subscribers who used SMART Money to a buy one (1) ride-all-you-can ticket or by downloading an EK Mobile Coupon after buying one (1) ride-all-you-can ticket were able to receive FREE entrance! This offer will be good until the end of May for SMART subscribers. Amusement park-goers were also graced by the presence of SMART World Billiard Champion Django Bustamante at the SMART Rei9ns booth.

Whew, what a week! Is it over? Well, SMART subscribers can enjoy more events in these hot spots for the entire summer! So while you're enjoying even more you can check out these great promos.

A SMART 64K Super SIM purchase at just P199 will get you special discounts and prizes. Swap your SIM to SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM and prepare yourself for similar delights. You get a cool premium item via pick-a-prize promo. You can also get a Nokia 2100 or Nokia 3315 at discounted prices. These prices are exclusive to your hotspot of choice. SMART Rei9ns gives something for everybody. If what you want is a Call and Text card of P300.00, you still get a special premium item via pick-a-prize.

Talk N' Text users looking to upgrade their SIMs to Talk N' Text Power SIM or those who want to purchase a new Talk N' Text Power SIM for only P150 get an instant prize. You can also purchase a Buddy 3388 for only P1,990. Those who just want a call and text card for a minimum load of P300 you still get a stylish prize.

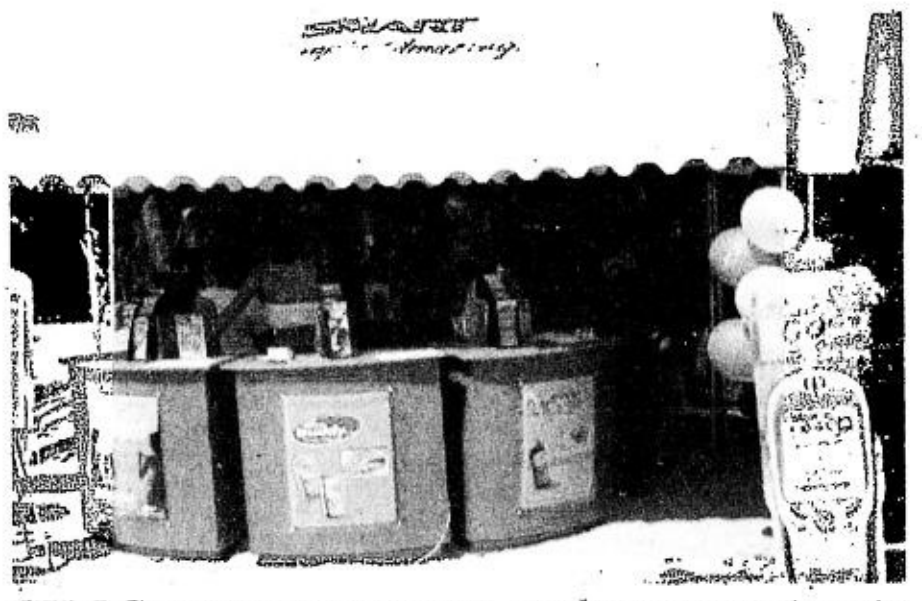
SMART Gold users can swap their SIM or avail of the Gold Rush package and get an exclusive premium item. The higher the plan, the more premium the item. SMART Gold users who activate 'My Calendar' or 'Horoscope' get a premium item via pick-a-prize.

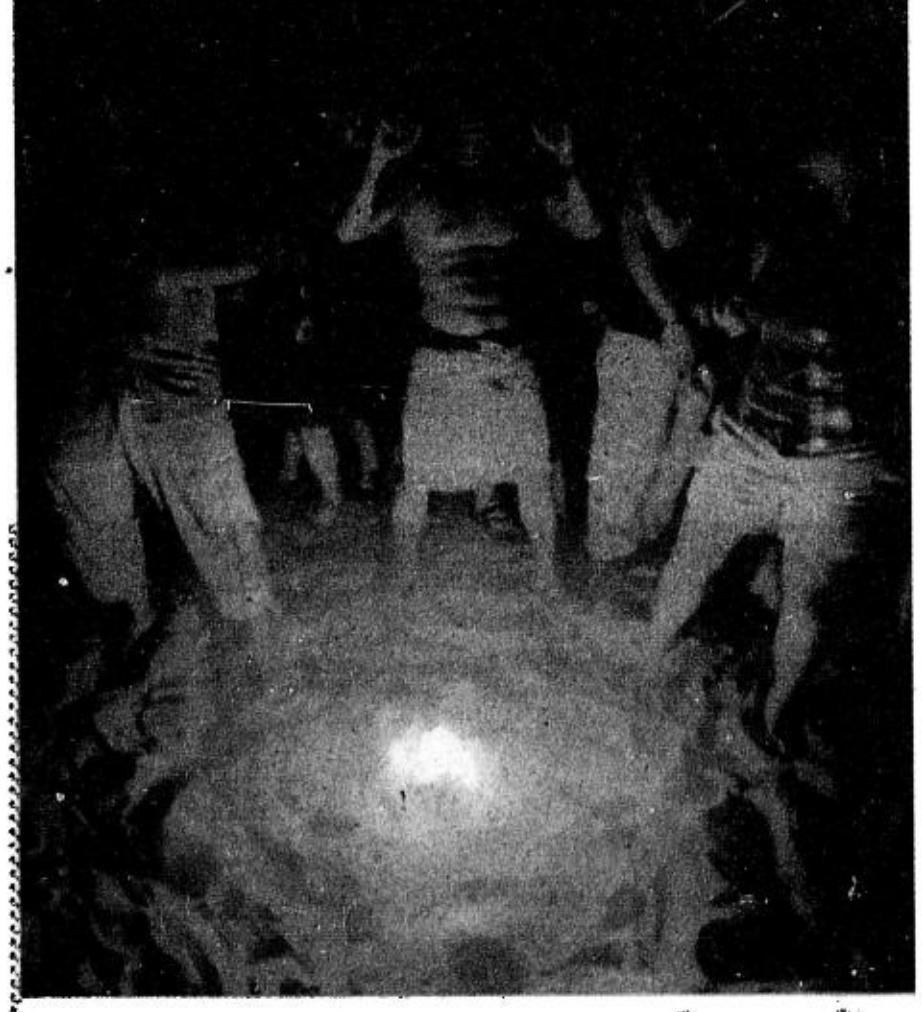
You're on a sand bar, you need to call your friend over in the Island, what do you do? Use SMART's Electronic Loading service and you can even enjoy as much as a P50 Bonus Load, for a minimum airtime purchase of P300. And even with a P250 airtime purchase, you still get a bonus load of P40.

Score a stylish mesh shopping bag when you enroll in the SMART Money Loyalty Program, and pay the P200 card fee. Register with SMART Mobile Coupon service by typing: Reg First NAME, Last Name, Birthday, Gender, Interests, number of promo updates to be received per week and send this to 270. And just by signing up, you automatically get a special gift.

For those tech-savvy vacationers activate your MMS and GPRS features using your MMS-capable handset and get a chance to win a sizzling hot SMART MMS beach bag. Grab the chance to get marked with a SMART Rei9ns sticker tattoo by our roving SMART crew. Wear it with pride and get caught wearing the sticker tattoo while using your SMART or Talk 'N Text cellfone in our hotspots and you'll be the lucky winner of an exclusive SMART Buddy Beach Mat.

So with all of these promos are you going to miss out being a SMART subscriber? Didn't think so. So while you're sunning yourself on the beach, relaxing over a meal with family, or dancing the night away in a hip bar at night always remember: this is your summer to RULE with SMART Rei9ns.





SIM Swap your way to cool summer treats

To add more spice to the festivities as SMART hit more than 9 million subscribers through the SMART Rei9ns summer campaign, SMART is once again offering its free SIM Swap program with an added twist: SIM Swap to SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM and get the superior features of the most powerful SIM to date, thanks to the combined power of SMART zed and SMART Money. Plus, avail of cool summer collectibles exclusive to SMART Rei9ns hotspots.

By SIM Swapping to SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM, you enter a world of limitless possibilities at your fingertips not available from any other wireless network. For starters, you can experience the innovative convenience of cashless shopping and purchasing through SMART Money. Plus, only SMART zed gives you a plethora of services ranging from hip logo and ringtone downloads to a wealth of information like news and traffic updates—direct to your SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM.

And for that added twist, there's another cool reason to switch to a SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM: since April 16 and lasting till the end of summer, hip summer items like mesh bags, tote bags, caps, visors and beach mats are being dished out for free as a summer treat to those who SIM Swap to SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM. Now, that's one amazing offer you won't find anywhere else.

The SMART Rei9ns festivities have been in full swing since April 12, taking all the hotspots across the country by storm: Camp John Hay in Baguio, Boardwalk in Subic, Enchanted Kingdom, Lower Beach in Batangas, Punta Fuego, White Beach in Puerto Galera, Station 3 of Boracay, Bantayan in Cebu and The Venue in Davao are the destinations that have been blitzed by a series of concerts, games and dazzling firework displays to celebrate over 9 million happy subscribers on the SMART network. Watch out as SMART continues to rule over Manila in the coming weekends, with more cool happenings and concerts coming your way. SIM Swapping to SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM is plain sailing—just visit the SMART Rei9ns booths at any of the mentioned hotspots and you can SIM Swap right there, on the spot!

So when partying in any of the SMART Rei9ns' hotspots, be warned against lazing in the sun too much or you'll miss out on this fantastic SIM Swap offer

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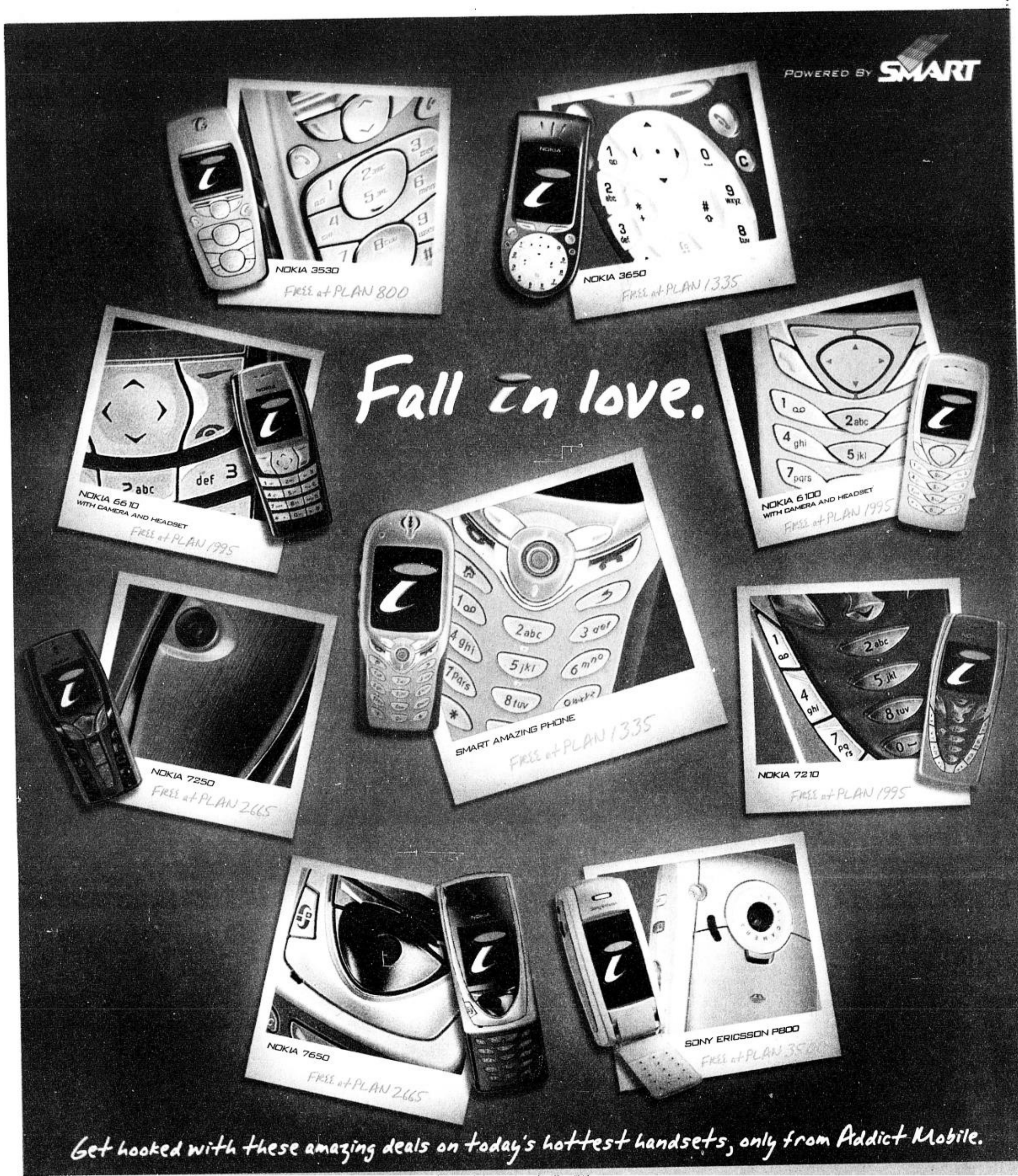

SPECIAL OFFERS FOR NEW SUBSCRIBERS:

	500	600	800	1335	1995	2665	3500
SMART Amazing Phone	17,200	14,800	13,500	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 3530	3,000	2,000	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 3650	-	-	-	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 7650	-	-	-	-	-	FREE	FREE
Nokia 7250	-	-	-	-	2,000	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6610	-	-	-	2,000	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6610 (w/ camera & headset)	-	-	-	-	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 7210	-	-	-	5,000	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 7210 (w/ camera & headset)	-	-	-	-	3,000	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6100 (w/ camera & headset)	-	-	-	-	FREE	FREE	FREE
Sony Ericsson P800	-	-	-	-	-	-	FREE

addict	500	600	800	1335	1995	2665	3500
Monthly Service Fee	P500	P600	P800	P1,335	P1,995	P2,665	P3,500

addict	500	600	800	1335	1995	2665	3500
SMS Messaging	P1.00						
MMS Messaging	P5.00						
SMS Info On Demand	P2.50						
MMS Info On Demand	P5.00						
MMS Personalization	P15.00						
GPRS (per kb)	P0.25						

AVAIL OF THIS SPECIAL INTRODUCTORY OFFER AT THESE LOCATIONS:

	DATE
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WHAT'S INSIDE

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Herminia Lloren /F4

Estelita Sincioco Dy /F7

Marietta Pumaren /F6

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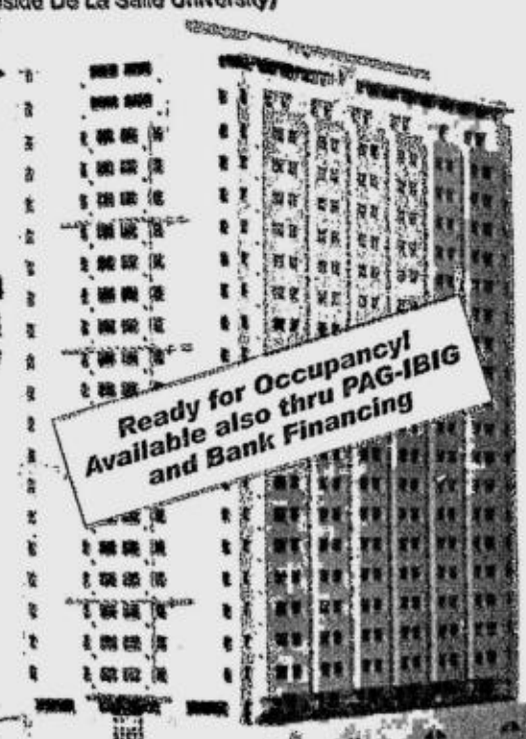

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In search of the artistic gene

Text by Constantino C. Tejero
Photos by Mike Alquinto

Ironically, she initially dissuaded her son from becoming an artist

VICTORIA Tence is the daughter of a Filipina and a Frenchman who settled in the Philippines before the war. The mother of artist José "Boogie" Tence Ruiz, it was from her that he got the two things by which he is readily distinguishable, before one has even seen his works: that distinctive middle name and the mestizo looks.

Boogie used to wonder where he got the artist's genes, because he could find none among his siblings, who were mostly psychologists and an advertising copywriter—except for two relatives by affinity, printmaker Pandy Aviado and writer Arturo Roseburg. Again, he turns to his mother.

He points out that the time he used to drive her to work in Philamlife on United Nations Avenue, Manila, must have strengthened his affinities with the arts, as he considers the old Philamlife an "esthetic place" (for its American architecture and landscaping, acoustically wonderful theater, well-preserved Manansala mural). Also, the Art Association of the Philippines held office in a cubicle behind the auditorium, which brought him closer to other artists.

Ironically, he was initially dissuaded by his mother from taking up fine arts.

"Actually *nagdu*-doodle *'yan maski sa eskwela nu'ng bata pa,*" she recalls. "But when after graduating from high school he expressed a wish to take up fine arts, I told him: *'Ay, naku, magugutom ka, anak. Kikita ka lang kung patay ka na. Magkuha ka na lang ng* advertising.*'*"

THE MOTHER and her artist son dressed up as The Invisible Man

VICTORIA Tence Ruiz and Boogie

Tribute to son

To please her, he had to take up advertising in the University of Santo Tomas, for two years, before he could proceed to fine arts. And he went on to become a painter, anyway, plus becoming a sculptor, installation artist, performance artist, illustrator, cartoonist, digital art exponent.

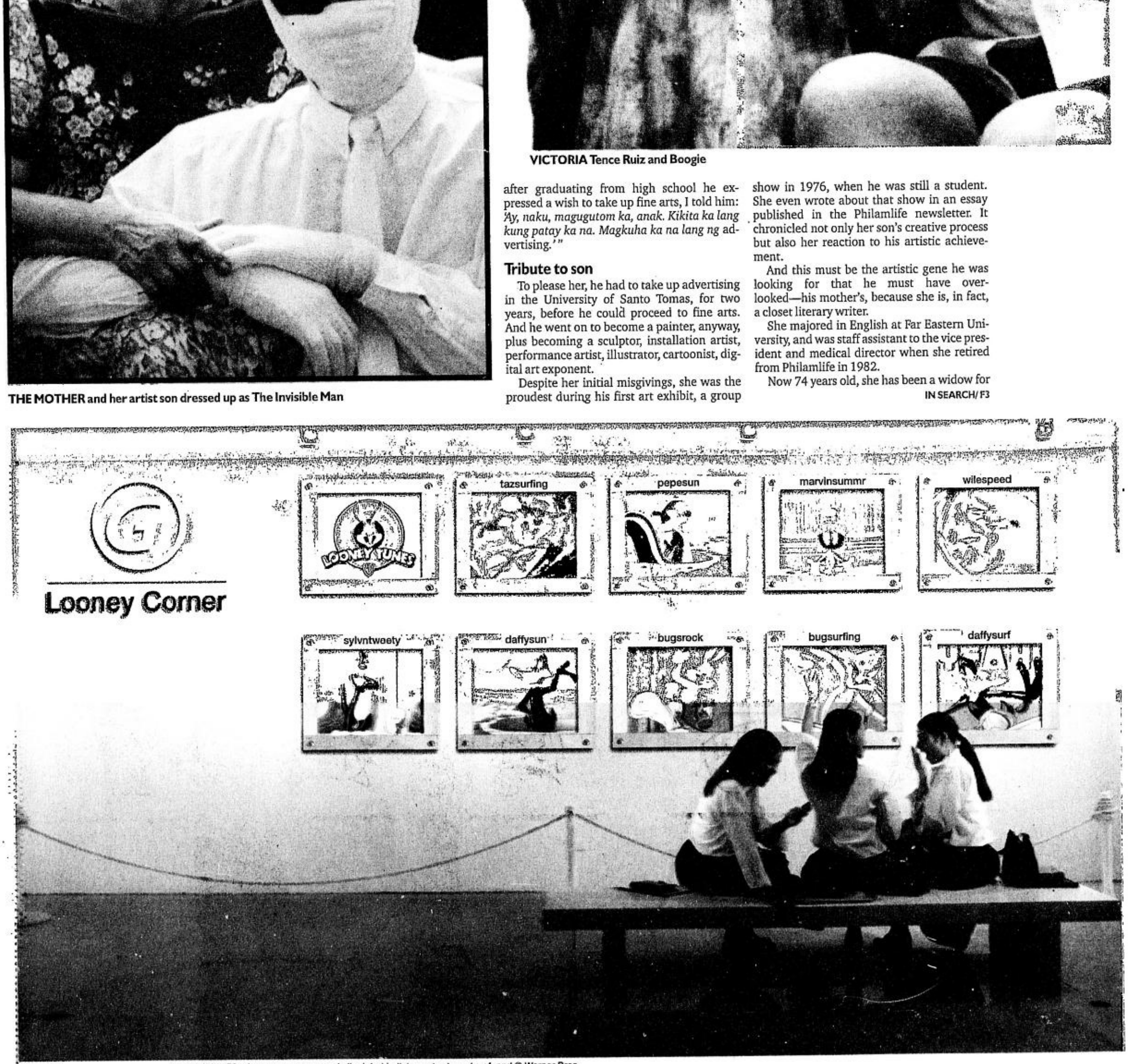
Despite her initial misgivings, she was the proudest during his first art exhibit, a group show in 1976, when he was still a student. She even wrote about that show in an essay published in the Philamlife newsletter. It chronicled not only her son's creative process but also her reaction to his artistic achievement.

And this must be the artistic gene he was looking for that he must have overlooked—his mother's, because she is, in fact, a closet literary writer.

She majored in English at Far Eastern University, and was staff assistant to the vice president and medical director when she retired from Philamlife in 1982.

Now 74 years old, she has been a widow for

IN SEARCH/ F3



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(s03)

Mag pays tribute to Moms

FAMILY Reader (FR) magazine pays tribute to all the mothers as it features Bel Fonacier and her Larry, Odette Manalo and son BJ, Helen Sotto with Gian, and Sita Yan's Bobby.

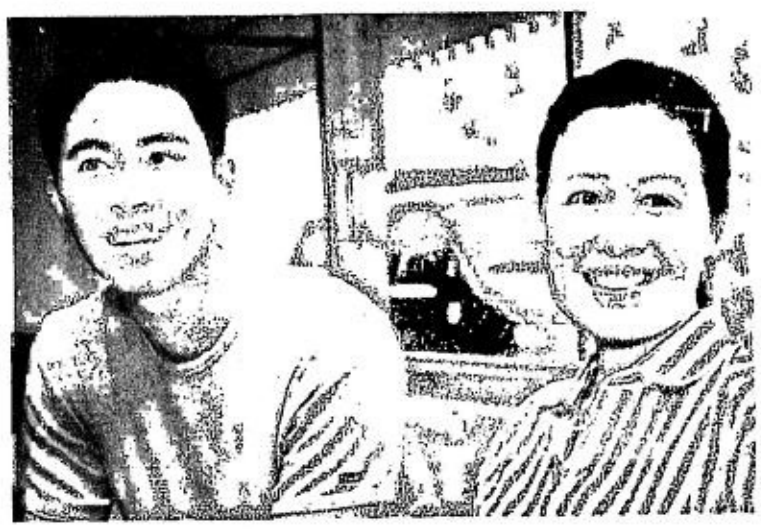
Basketball stars Larry Fonacier and BJ Manalo express their admiration of their moms by finding the time to spend with her despite their hectic schedule .

Helen's Gian, who inherited his mom's musical talent, is part of a band. He spends quality time with her by catching a movie or attending Bible classes.

Bobby beams with pride when he and mom Sita would go out and eat together. Sometimes, they would talk about the Rico Yan Foundation set up after the death of the younger son. They share a friendship that is very touching.

Raising a son is definitely fulfilling but it's not always a walk in the park. But the wacky memories and thoughtful gestures will always be cherished.

Learn more about the secrets of these mother-and-son relationships in Family Reader, which is published by Mega Magazines & Publications, Inc. (MMPI). It is now available in major bookstores and newsstands for P95 a copy. Contact 631-2859 for more information.



BEL Fonacier and son Larry

In search...

From page F2

19 years. But her days are still filled up by her eight children and 16 grandchildren, when they regularly visit her house in Xavierville, Quezon City.

When I retired, I vowed *na ayaw ko nang magpa*-pressure, *ayaw ko nang mag*-join *sa mga* formal organizations," she says.

The only hectic activities she allows herself are religious obligations in the subdivision chapel and lunches with former colleagues. She has a medical checkup every four months.

Memento for mother

"One thing I'm happy about, I have no real problems with my children," she says. "Because none of them is extreme—*walang* extreme *uminom, walang* extreme *mag*-good time, no drug problem. *Simple lang ang* pace *nila.* They make good family friends. They're pretty independent, on their own. *Wala namang matinding sakit ng ulo."*

Probably the strongest anxieties over her children she can recall involved Boogie. He was an activist during the martial-law years, and, on top of that, he was an artist—certainly not the regular path one would have wished for one's child. But then he was an honor student, and that should be enough compensation for the anxieties.

The only painting of his she keeps and displays in the *sala* is a dark-hued depiction of leaves of ornamental plants. Titled "Eternal Rhythms," he did it in 1975 when he was still a student, upon her request for him to memorialize the garden of their old house on Mother Ignacia Street.

That house has since been sold, after she decided she could no longer put up with the series of coups (against Presidents Marcos and Aquino) taking place in the vicinity. As she was still carrying the phobias of the last world war and martial law, her anxieties mounted, so she had no choice but to let go of the house her father built.

Now life for her has simpler rhythms. She would contribute essays to magazines and newspapers as the spirit moves her, without any deadline hounding her. And she clips every article and notice about her son's works and shows which appear in the papers.

"E, sayang naman," she says of the album she has compiled. *"E, kung mawala... Tabi ako nang tabi. 'Yan ang nanay."*

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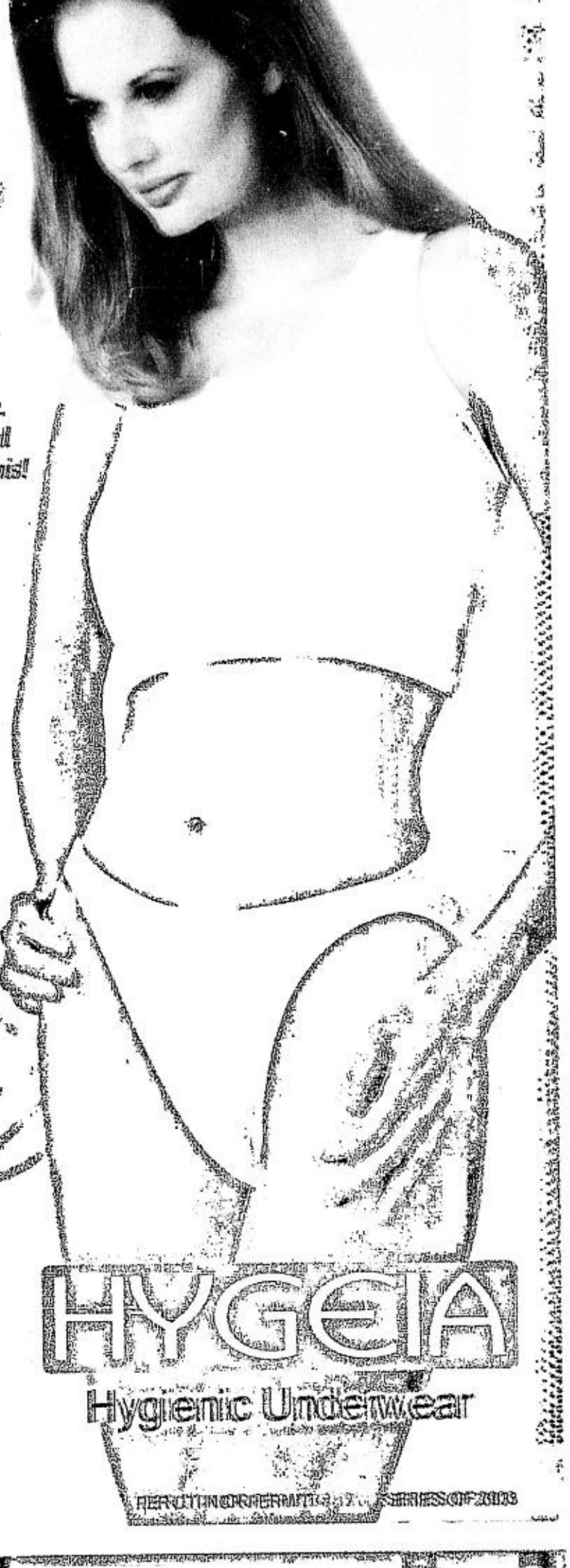

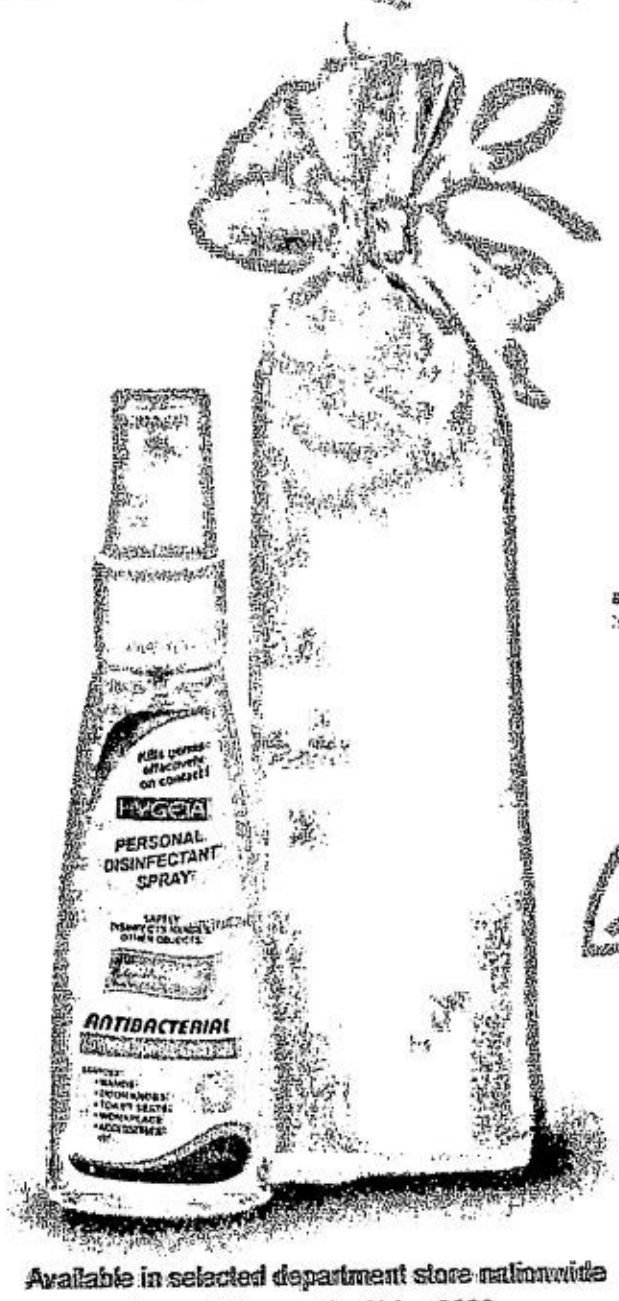

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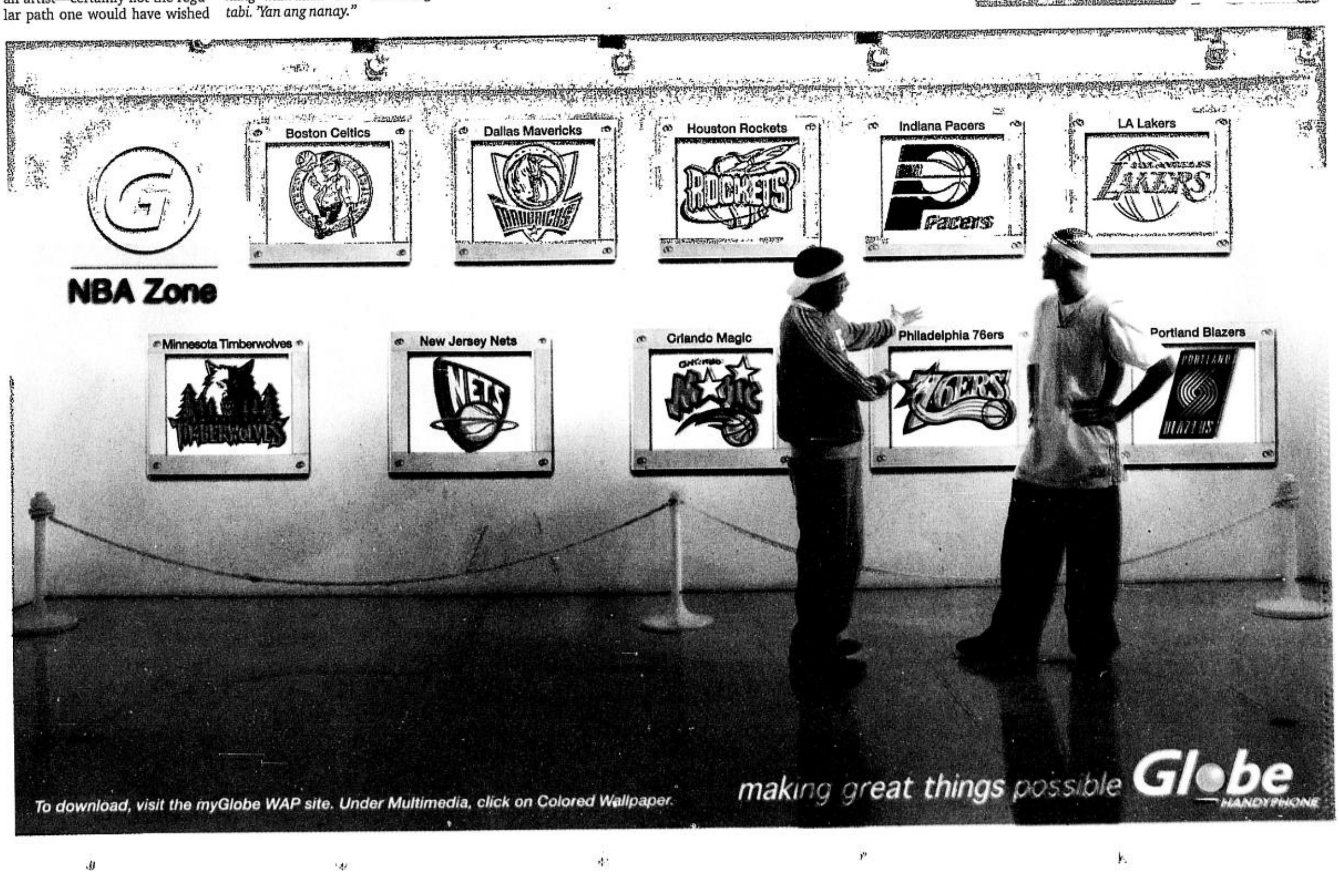

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PHILIPPINE DAILY IN
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Chic mom to chic designer

Herminia Tuazon Lloren is dressed to kill as mother to fashion sensation Jojie Lloren

MOD MOM. "The year before I retired, I told Jojie, *'Gusto ko laging bago na ang damit ko...'*"

Text by Cheche V. Moral
Photos by Chito Vecina

SHE trails behind her son dressed in a pair of cream pants and flat mules, definitely not fancy for a fashion maverick's mom. She smiles warmly, wrinkling the eyes peering through semi-tinted glasses. She looks fresh with just a hint of pale pink tint on her lips.

The woman has a genial and unassuming air about her, looking very relaxed with the top frog closure of her blouse casually unbuttoned. Two minutes with her and you sense the vitality and life that have waned in many women her age. No, this woman can't possibly be nearing 70.

"*Ano'ng itsura ng buhok ko*?" she asks, ruefully running her fingers through her wavy pixie mane.

"*Eh, di* flat!" admonishes her son. He turns to us, "*Sabi ko kasi i*-tease *niya, eh*." Thus goes the affectionate banter between mother and son. We compliment her and he rolls his eyes. "*Malandi, ano*?" he grimaces exaggeratedly, but the pride in his eyes give away his fondness for her.

The woman, Herminia "Hermie" Tuazon Lloren, is actually 68. She is mother to celebrated fashion designer Jesus "Jojie" Lloren, 40, and to a daughter, Ma. Cecilia, 37, a sociology graduate.

"I've been idle for three years," she laughingly says, as she relates her post-retirement activities. "I've been spending a lot of time with my sisters, traveling..." Jet-setting? we ask. She laughs heartily.

The Lloren matriarch is busy entertaining *balikbayan* siblings and their families while attending to her duties as the fiesta's *hermana mayor* in their place in Pateros. "My siblings are my *barkada*," she says. When she's not abroad, she spends her time fishing at her sister's farm in Laguna or at the casino. "But she gives up once she loses P1,000," her son says with a sigh.

If Ms Lloren is now enjoying a life of leisure, this wasn't always the case. Widowed while her children were still in college ("both in second year because Jojie kept shifting to different courses"), she single-handedly took on the responsibilities she once shared with husband Francisco, an accountant. Until her retirement at age 65, she had worked with the Philippine Deposit and Insurance Corp. She never remarried. "*Mahirap*... My husband was so good. *Di ba sabi nila, walang dalawang glorya*?"

Understanding mom

When her husband was still alive, she recalls, he would often get mad when he would find sketches of clothes in Jojie's notebooks. With the booming hotel industry, he wanted Jojie to take up hotel and restaurant administration at UP Diliman, which the dutiful son did, albeit with a heavy heart. "When his dad died, I told Jojie to get his act together. He finally shifted to clothing technology, and I never opposed his decision."

Jojie's talent came from her side of the family, she says. "*Pag sinasabihan ako ng mga tao,*

'Uy, sikat na sikat na ang a
parang puputok ang dibdib
never let it go to my head.
ways tell Jojie, too."

Both still single with succ
children refuse to leave th
forting to know that she's
"even when I'm just watchi
and she's reading a book." H
care of everything. She eve
how to run his business and

Though the mother is
children didn't grow up in a
they hug and say "I love you
ery chance they get, she say
of her children's love for he
They shower her with gifts,
them for anything "except
out with her friends!": her
wala na akong damit,' tap
RTW *ko*."

She says her son took aft
cause he was closer to me v
was closer to her dad." Lik
disturbingly quiet when h
this also explains the dram
place between them.

"Our conversations turn
bates all the time," confesse
exasperation. "*Walang gu*
Tapos tahimik na kami parel
ing his head. "*Maya-maya*
ulit!"

Jojie, however, relishes
ship with his mom. She w
and very strict especially
died, he says. "Before I look

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HERMINIA Lloren, with son Jojie: "I can't ask for anything more. All my sacrifices have paid off."

…nak mo,' siyempre …ko 'sa tuwa. Pero I That's what I al-

…ssful careers, her …e coop. "It's com- …here," says Jojie, …g TV in her room …us, Mommy takes …n advises him on …staff.

…irst to admit her …household where …to each other ev- …, she has no doubt …—and vice versa. …ut she never asks …when she's going …on laughs. "Jojie, …s *kukuha siya sa*

…r her, "maybe be- …hile my daughter …e Mom, Jojie gets …'s upset. Perhaps …s that often take

… into heated de- …s the son in mock …tong, *magpatalo. …o*," he adds, shak- …, smile *na kami*

…his new relation- …as overprotective …after their father …d at her as an au-

thority. Now our relationship is more relaxed; we're like friends. *Ngayon nabibiro na namin siya. Dati takot kami kasi baka magalit.*"

But unlike his mother who's very organized to a fault, Jojie admits he's a bit slipshod. While he is "*waldas*," her finances are well managed, with her insurance plans in order so her children will have nothing to worry about when the time comes.

Promise

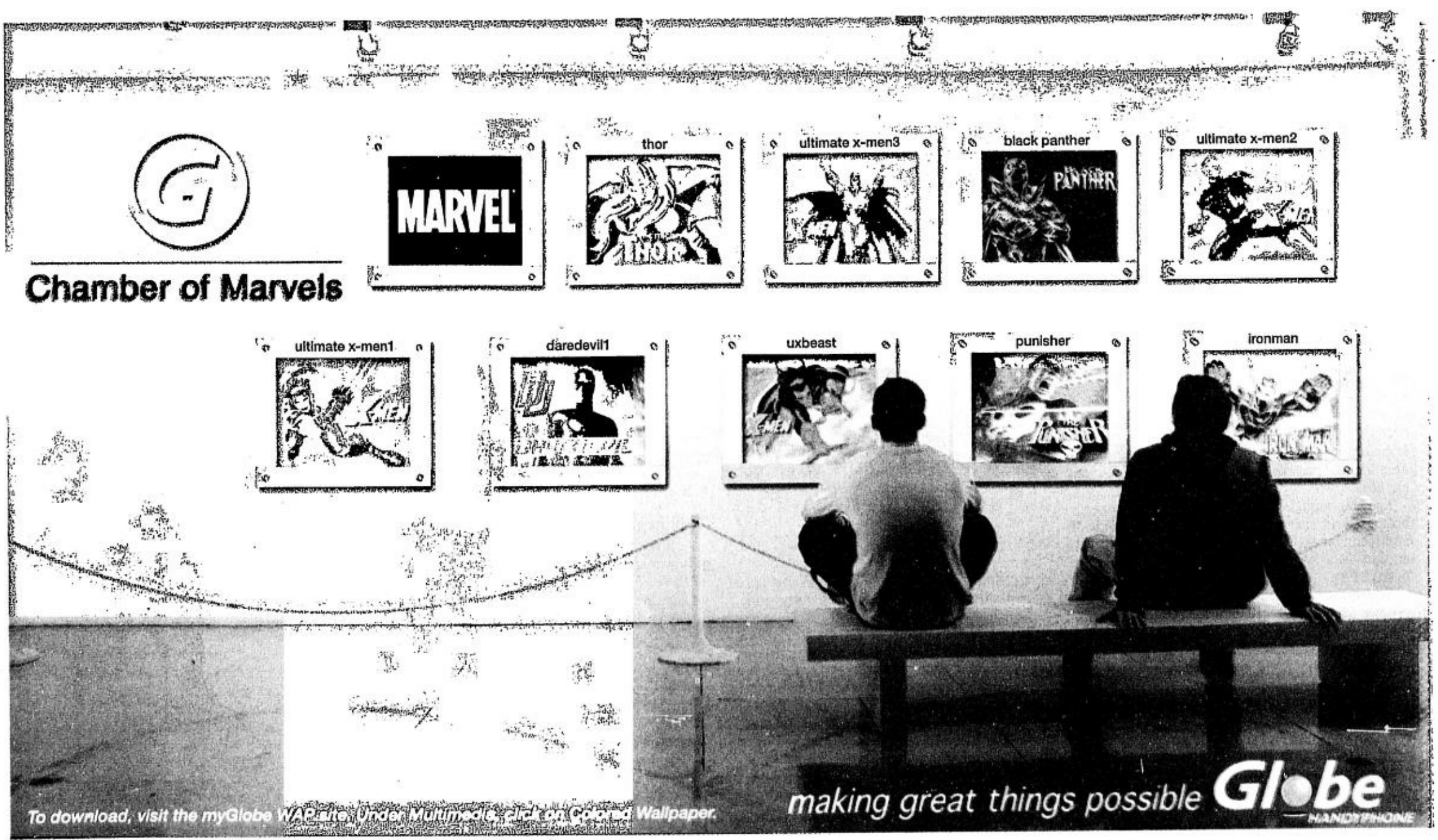
"We made a promise to her that whatever happens, we'll make sure to give her a comfortable life," Jojie says. "Whatever she has saved, we tell her to spend on herself."

Is she the one he runs to? "For money, yes!" he laughs.

"My only wish now is for my daughter to get married so someone will look after her," the mom says wistfully. "It worries me especially when I'm away."

As she walks out of the room, her son whispers conspiratorially, "It's her (Mom's) fault. She's picky," he winks, "*kaya hayan tuloy*... But I know that when my sister will eventually have children of her own, Mommy will be her standard for parenting... *Konting* fine-tuning *na lang*."

Knowing his mother is comfortable with his homosexuality, Jojie (who claims he is unattached) says he would make sure to choose someone educated and financially secure to bring home to mom. But even then, if he had to make a choice, he swears he would give up his love life for his mother—"without batting an eyelash... In the same manner that I would give it up for my career."



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The Pumarens' most ardent fan

Text by Belle V. Bondoc
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

THIS is the first-ever interview for me. Really? Why me?" Marietta Pumaren blurted out, as she welcomed the INQUIRER team to her home in Pasig City.

Although her sons are familiar names, especially in basketball, she has stayed away from the limelight. She was never a "stage mom" to her boys. She is content to remain in the background, providing support and cheering for her sons.

Marietta, 65, has been married to retired basketball player and coach Filomeno Pumaren for 45 years now. She is the mother of four boys—businessman Pilo Jr., basketball coaches Derrick and Franz, and basketball player Dindo.

When her three younger sons were steadily making names for themselves in the field of basketball, Pumaren never failed to let them know how proud she was of them.

Derrick coaches the Philippinne Basketball Association's FedEx Express team, while Franz is the head coach of De La Salle University's Green Archers team in the University Athletic Association of the Phllippines. Dindo, the youngest, just retired from playing in the PBA.

"We breathe and eat basketball. It's in our blood, from my husband down to my kids," says Pumaren.

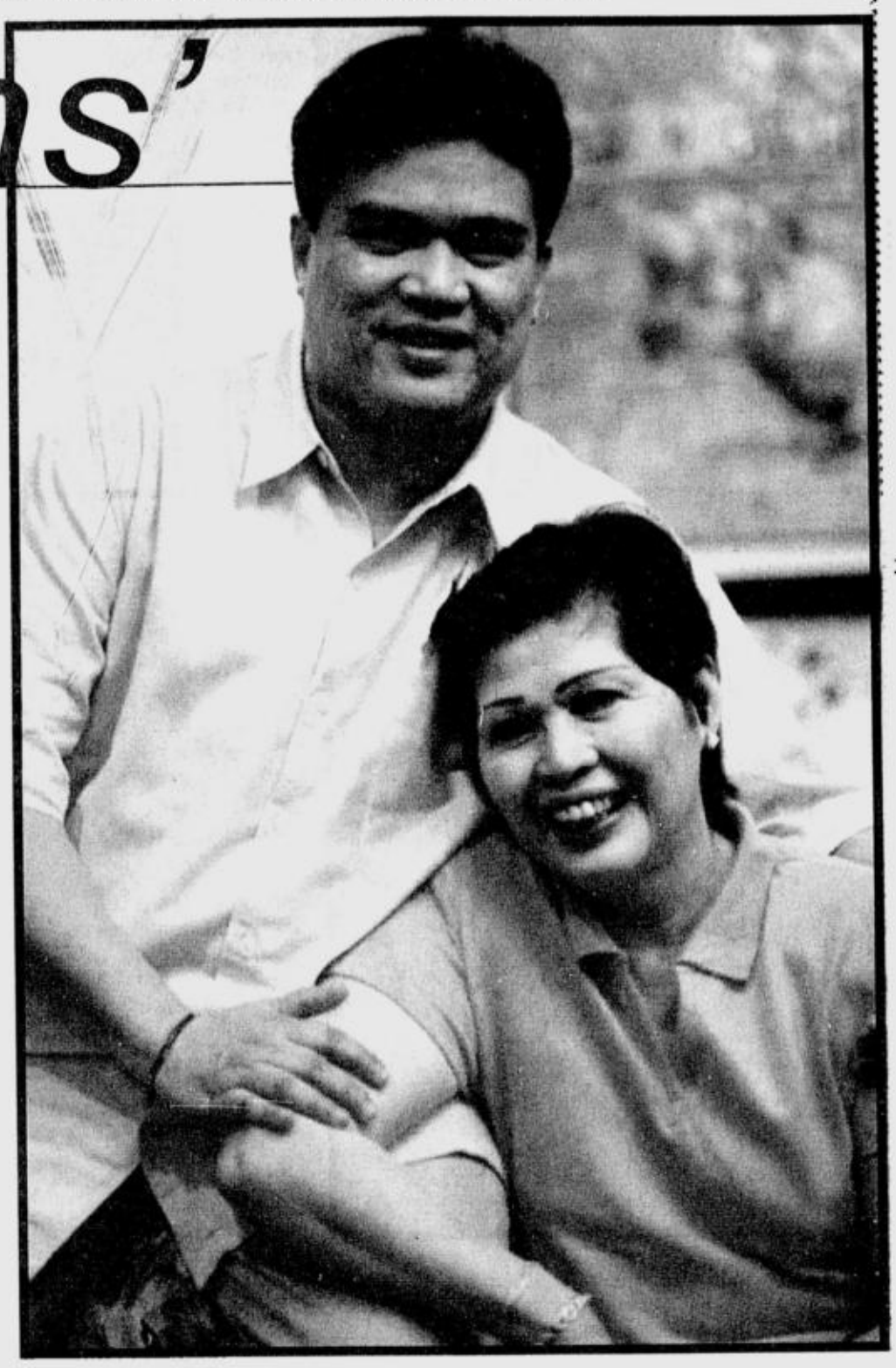
The only exception is the eldest son, who is based in the United States with his family.

Pumaren's mothering style has made her more of a friend than an authoritative figure to her sons.

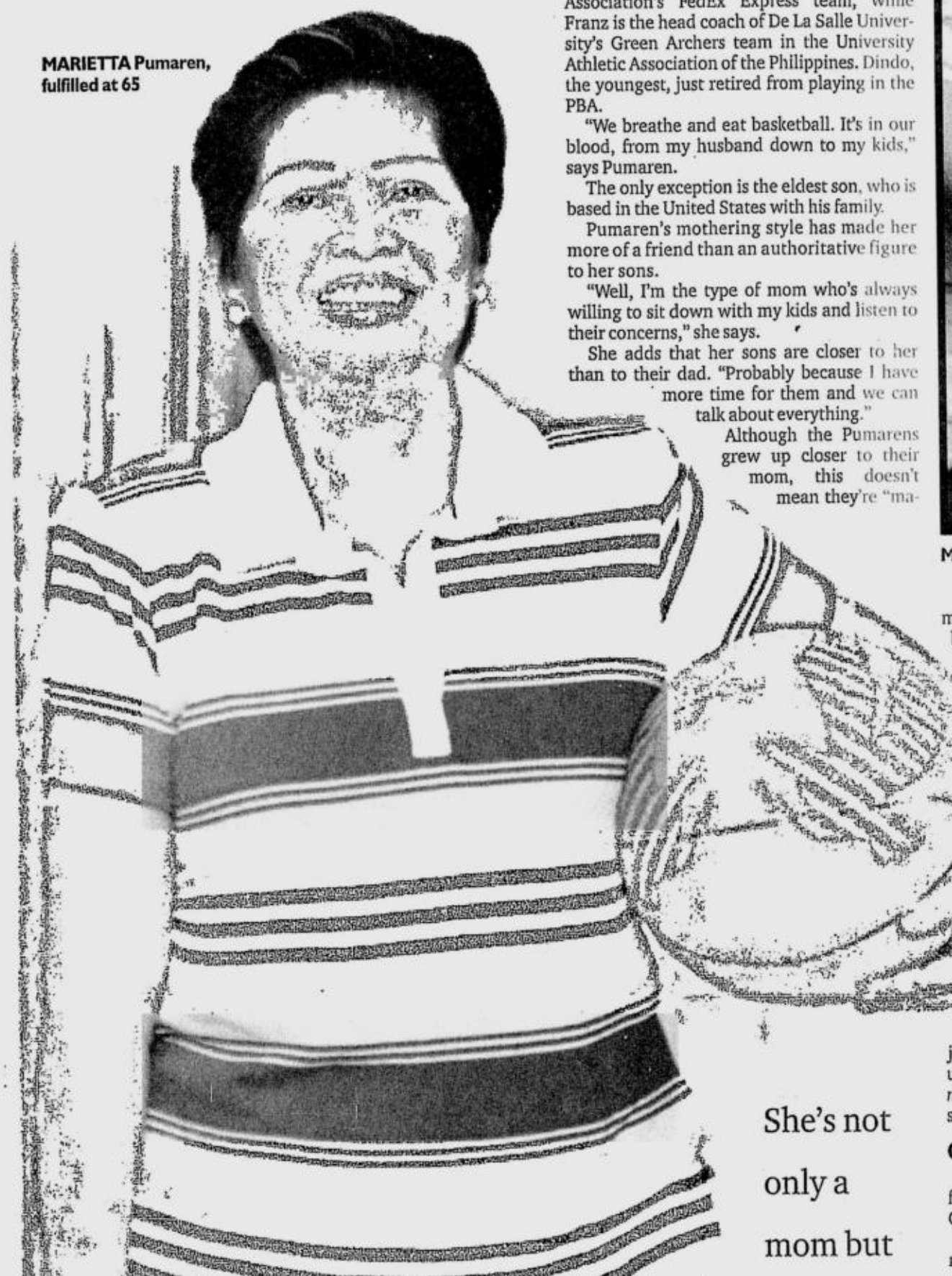
"Well, I'm the type of mom who's always willing to sit down with my kids and listen to their concerns," she says.

She adds that her sons are closer to her than to their dad. "Probably because I have more time for them and we can talk about everything."

Although the Pumarens grew up closer to their mom, this doesn't mean they're "ma-



MOTHER AND SON TEAM. Marietta with son Derrick



MARIETTA Pumaren, fulfilled at 65

She's not only a mom but also best friend and defender of her boys

ma's boys." She says, if anything, this probably influenced them to be faithful husbands and good fathers.

"None of my children grew up a spoiled brat. We never spoiled them; we disciplined them in our own way. And never *namin sila pinagbuhatan ng kamay*," the Pumaren matriarch says.

She admits to being strict, but says she is not insensitive. Her sons, she says, remain unaffected despite their fame and, most importantly, are God-fearing.

Communication lines are always open between parent and children even now that her sons have their own families.

"My youngest son Dindo especially, would call up as early as 6 a.m. just to ask if I'm okay. He would ask what I'm up to for the day. He's really the *pinakamakulit* among my sons," she adds with a smile.

Cheerleader

One of the greatest challenges the family faced was when Franz failed to make it to Congress in 1998.

"We were all supportive of him. But what really broke my heart was when I saw his disappointment when he didn't win in the election," says Pumaren.

Now she's glad that Franz has another chance to serve the people as councilor of District 3 in Quezon City. "And he's doing a great job," she reports.

The Pumarens had to cope next with Dindo's early retirement from the PBA. Dindo, 37, was one of the pioneers of the league.

Whatever reasons made Dindo quit the PBA, his mom supports his decision, especially as it opened many new opportunities for him.

"I always encouraged my sons to find out what fulfills them, to pursue it and excel," she says.

But the mother does not only encourage. She is also ready to fight for her boys, particularly during tough basketball games. There is not a single game when you wouldn't see her cheering for her sons and pushing them to do their best.

"Before, I used to keep quiet and just pray. *Sinisikil ko 'yung* feelings *ko, kaya siguro ako nagkaroon ng* heart condition," she laughs. "But now, *nakikipagsabayan na ako ng sigawan. Kapag may umaaway sa* team *ng mga anak ko, nakikipaglaban ako talaga.*"

She feels frustrated when her sons' teams lose, "*...pero masayang-masaya naman ako kapag nananalo sila.* But I have to accept that in every game *may panalo, may talo.*"

The greatest happiness she has had so far was seeing her sons win in every game and become successful in their chosen careers.

No. 1 priority

Pumaren says her family has always been her top priority. She used to work, but she never let it interfere with her role as a mother.

She enjoys most being with her family, hearing Mass and spending lunch or dinner together. She cooks their favorite *sinigang* and spaghetti every now and then, especially during family gatherings.

Almost everything in her life revolves around her family, "and I'm happy," she says. Her simple joys include being able to do things for her family.

While believing that women should always strive to look their best, she doesn't agree that they should lie about their age. "I'm 65 years old with nine grandchildren, and I'm fulfilled," she proudly declares.

Although her sons are all grown up, in her mind they remain little boys, forever young.

And to her boys, she would forever be their loving and thoughtful mom.

E-mail the author at rbapril_25@yahoo.com

My Mama, 101 years old and counting

By Augusto "Nony" Estrada Chio
Contributor

She survived the war, the heartbreaking death of her dear eldest son, arthritis and all the infirmities of age to stay young after a century

ONE HUNDRED is the number by which we normally measure a perfect score. Mother has reached that number. And perfection has always been the story of her life.

She was orphaned at birth, the youngest of nine brothers and sisters. She finished her elementary and secondary schooling walking to school that was a good distance from their home in Tetuan, Zamboanga City.

Education was a principal goal of the family, each brother and sister sacrificing for the other so that they would advance in life. Thus, the eldest continued to fish and farm so that the second could finish elementary school and go on to teach; the third a doctor, the fourth an administrator. Again, the fifth, sixth and seventh had to stay behind and work and help out with the others so that the eighth could become an engineer and the youngest, my mother, a pharmacist.

Mother seemed indestructible. She went through the hardships and deprivations of a world war with stoic resilience, to survive with her family. She watched helplessly as fire razed to the ground everything she owned and worked for, not once, but three times. Each time, like the proverbial phoenix rising from the ashes, she came out of these ordeals more determined to carve a niche in her world.

Inconsolable

The only time I saw Mother's light snuffed out of her was when my eldest brother's life was prematurely ended by an accident when he was barely 22 years old. Overnight, her demeanor changed. Suddenly she was an old woman whose light steps became heavy footfalls as she went around our home. She was inconsolable.

My younger brother and I felt she was looking through us but not really seeing us. We sorely wanted to reach out to her and bridge the pain gripping her, but we did not know how. So we let her be.

When my eldest son was born, mother's eyes regained their glow and sparkle. She was a changed woman. It was as if her newly born grandson filled the hole in her long-grieving heart.

Her will to live was demonstrated in the worst medical crisis of her life when, at the age of 68 in 1970, she had to undergo surgery to remove a diseased portion of her lung. She recovered in a week's time and was shopping in Dau shortly after.

Pilgrim octogenarian

She even managed to go on a pilgrimage to Medjugore. In spite of her arthritic knee at age 86, she was able to climb up to the place where the Virgin was said to have appeared, to the delight and applause of her fellow pilgrims.

She underwent a cataract operation of the left eye when she was 88 and for the right eye the following year. Her eyesight today, after both lenses were replaced, is better than that of most people half her age. That makes her day in total living color, being able to still read the newspaper and watch her favorite soap opera on television.

To keep her mind active, she uses longhand in arithmetic calculations. She tried to dabble in a computer in her early 90s but she quickly lost interest. Today, she occasionally suffers from lapses of memory, but there are more days when she remembers her grandchildren and great grandchildren's names.

Her life continues to be as simple as she has taught us to be. That diamonds and emeralds are really mere stones. That the real values in this world are the values that make people respect us. That simplicity and humility are the twin virtues that should guide us in our daily lives. That the legacy of a good name means more than a ton of ill-gotten gold.

Today, she continues to care for herself, keeping her weight just enough for her knees to support. While she has been mostly on a wheelchair since her doctor diagnosed her to have osteoarthritis, she still walks on her own if need be.

She has always known what she wanted, she has been the mistress of her fate. Even her death has been planned: a simple pine coffin, not to be embalmed, and therefore interred within 24 hours. A very private affair.

Before reaching a century of life, she had often said, "It still seems like just a wink of an eye!"

On March 21, 2002, she joined an estimated 350,000 centenarians in a world of more than six billion people.

If God continues to grant her more years, in no time, she will literally be one in a million!

Augusto "Nony" Estrada Chio is a civil engineer in the construction business.

This 'second mom' is first-rate

Pastry chef Jessie Sincioco was only a young girl when her doting aunt took her under her wings. They have been baking sweet love since

ESTELITA Sincioco Dy watched Jessie "spread her wings."

Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

THE YEAR was 1962. Newly married Estelita Sincioco Dy took under her loving care 9-year-old Josefina "Jessie" Sincioco.

"Among all my nephews and nieces, Jessie is my favorite," says Estelita.

Jessie's father, Juanito, is Estelita's older brother. "We were nine in the family and we a poor family in Angat, Bulacan," Estelita says. "During my time, girls were dissuaded from having an education. But I persisted on having one."

Estelita graduated from elementary with honors. She then decided to move to Manila to finish high school. "I didn't mind living with my relatives and working as a housemaid as long as I could study."

But before leaving her hometown, she promised little Jessie that she would raise her herself and provide for her education.

Soft-spoken Estelita took up commerce at the Philippine College of Commerce (now Polytechnic University of the Philippines).

Once in a while, she would visit Jessie in Bulacan and bring her little gifts like hair clips, candies and cheap toys. "I don't know, but I just kept on telling her that I would get her to stay with me when I get married. She was the apple of my eyes and her parents and five siblings knew it."

After college, Estelita landed several jobs in different accounting firms. Once, she held a job as a bookkeeper-cum-housekeeper in one company.

"I stayed in the owner's house, while I worked for them in the morning. I cleaned their house, bathed their kids and practically took care of the household."

Keeping her promise

One afternoon, Estelita answered a wrong telephone call from Eduardo Dy. Both got attracted to each other's voice. The misplaced phone call led them to become friends, then sweethearts. They married in 1962.

All along, Estelita was anxious to get Jessie and give her a better life in Manila. A week after the couple's honeymoon in Baguio, Estelita went to talk to Jessie's parents, particularly to her mom, Carmen Sincioco.

"At first, there was some resistance because Jessie was the eldest in the family. But, I carefully explained to them my sincere intention to give Jessie a good education," Estelita explains.

"I was not trying to snatch Jessie from her biological parents, I was merely extending help to her family."

Estelita brought up Jessie like her own daughter. She and her husband brought her to school, helped her with homework and provided for her needs.

"Jessie was such a hardworking and persevering child," she says. "She didn't mind helping me in the household chores. She never resented that she had to do the laundry, cooking and keeping the house clean from dust and mites."

Once in a while, Jessie would go home to her parents or her parents would visit her.

Jessie calls Estelita *ditse* (second elder sister) and Estelita's husband *kuya*. "She never called me Mom, but she always introduces me to her friends as her second mom," Estelita proudly says.

Baking for bonding

Estelita bore four daughters—Nightingale, Beryl, Abigail and Poinsettia—but there was no friction between them and Jessie. It helped that Jessie is such a level-headed girl. "My kids consider Jessie their eldest sister since she took care of them from birth."

Jessie must have gotten the influence from her *ditse* that she studied banking and finance at Manuel L. Quezon University.

When Estelita retired from her accounting job, she focused her energy on her favorite hobby—baking.

"I remember that Jessie and I tried to bake a chiffon cake. Because we had no knowledge in baking, we spent the whole night baking the cake, which we couldn't eat afterward because it turned out to be as hard as a rock."

In 1977, Estelita enrolled in baking at the Liberty Flour Mills. For six months, she learned to bake all sorts of cakes, which she also taught to Jessie.

"Believe it or not, Jessie has such a gifted hand; she's so good in decorating cakes," Estelita says. "Jessie would make slices of ripe mangoes into flowers, and create beautiful borders."

Estelita eventually enrolled Jessie in a cake decorating school. Together, Estelita and Jessie would bake and sell cakes to friends. Their most sought-after sweets were Black Forest, chocolate cakes, pies and tarts.

"I would bake and she would decorate. Our hands were so full during Christmas because of the orders," she recalls.

One day, Estelita pushed Jessie to join the Great Maya Cookfest. Jessie submitted an Orange Festival Cake, a chocolate cake with orange flavor. But, she lost.

Later, Jessie joined again, using her *ditse*'s tried-and-tested recipe. She bagged the grand prize for her Mango Cake in 1983. The honor clinched her a job at the Hotel Inter-Continental. After consulting her *ditse*, Jessie dropped her accounting job to work in the kitchen.

A fast learner, she was taken as third "commis" or assistant after her first month of training. She worked her way up from there to demi-chef, then to chef de partie and finally, pastry chef.

Jessie has paved the way for other Filipina chefs to succeed in a male-dominated turf, the kitchen. She is best known for her grand finale desserts, which can be as complicated as a multi-tiered, richly embellished wedding cake, to classic pastry and exotic fruit crêpes. Her repertoire varies from anything as comforting as an earthy crispy apple strudel to an elegant fruit coulis and an airy and flamboyant soufflé.

Jessie now oversees Le Soufflé and Top of the Citi. She is the vice president of Lucullus Gourmet Product Corp.

Proud (second) mom

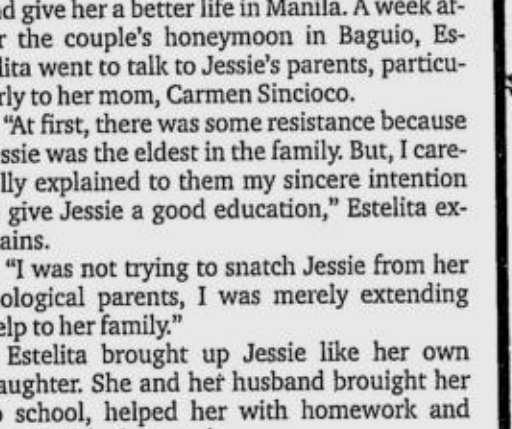
Estelita has watched Jessie "spread her wings." She's proud that she has done a good job as a second mom to her.

Estelita still bakes up to now, and that's the only thing that eats up most of her day. She's good with cheesecakes and chocolate cakes. She also experiments with new cakes, and if they turn out good, she gives the recipe to Jessie. When not baking, she and her husband like to go out to dine in new restaurants.

E-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph

BAKING and eating have created a strong bond between aunt and niece.

Say 'I love you, Mom' with books

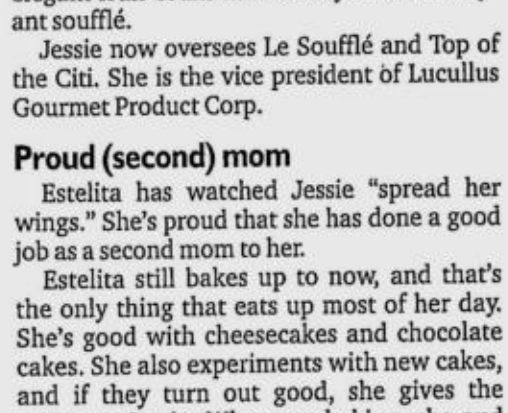


SPIRITUAL READINGS: "Women on the Journey," "Small Miracles for Women," "Putting First What Matters Most" and "The Woman's Book of Soul."

DO YOU HAVE A FOODIE MOM? Recipe books that are easy to flip, as in Betty Crocker's "Good & Easy," or handsome books focusing on baking, garnishes, creative catering and regional specialities are mommy pleasers that eventually will turn into palate pleasers.

ALL BOOKS AVAILABLE AT ALL NATIONAL BOOK STORES.
PHOTOS BY ERNIE SARMIENTO

ADDICTING "Chocolate" series of books are full of heartwarming stories. Titles include "Chocolate for a Woman's Dressing," "Chocolate for a Woman's Blessing," "Chocolate for a Woman's Spirit," "Chocolate for a Woman's Soul," "Chocolate for a Woman's Heart" and "Chocolate for a Woman's Courage"



FOR THE STAY-AT-HOME mom who loves to keep her surroundings beautiful and smelling nice, three books loaded with ideas to keep her busy.

Fast facts on Filipino mothers

1 is the rank of mothers as role model for Filipino youth according to a Social Weather Stations (SWS) nationwide survey. Mothers are also the first person to turn to when depressed, the first person to go to when there is a need to borrow large amount of money; and the first person sought for help in doing household chores.

62 percent of young Filipinos said they had "very good" relationships with their mothers. This is 10 percent higher than those who said they had "very good" relationships with their fathers, according to an Asian-wide Unicef study.

62 percent of respondents in a SWS survey agreed with the statement: A working mother can establish just as warm and secure a relationship with her children as a mother who does not work. About 23 disagreed, giving a net margin (difference of agreed from disagreed) of + 29.

80 percent of young females prefer to ask their mothers about menstruation, according to a Johnson & Johnson (Phils.) Inc. study.

ILLUSTRATIONS: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Risks of motherhood

2 is the number of years needed for a mother to recover her strength and stamina after childbirth.

1,579 women were reported to have died while giving birth in 1998.

172 is the rate of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births according to the 1998 National Demographic and Health Survey. More women died of childbirth-related complications than of typhoid, H-fever, infections, measles and hepatitis.

225 is the maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births in Northern Mindanao, the highest among the regions in 1995.

85 percent of mothers had the blues after giving birth. The blues, manifested by tearfulness, irritability, anxiety and ambivalence toward the child, is the normal form of depression which occurs to mothers after two to four days of giving birth. It usually occurs after the first birthing; in the second, it becomes lesser.

10 percent of mothers had postpartum depression, or PPD, the more serious condition that lasts for weeks and shown by depressed mood, guilt, anxiety, fear of harm coming to the baby, and obsessional features.

Only **1** per 1,000 of mothers had postpartum psychosis, the most serious illness manifested by disorientation, very rapid mood changes, and delusions.

500 cubic cm of blood, vitamins and other nutrients are lost by mothers during childbirth.

96.2 percent of those who received prenatal care live in urban areas, according to the 2001 Maternal and Child Health Survey.

63 percent of Filipinas consult midwives for prenatal care. After midwives, doctors placed second, *hilots* or traditional birth attendants ranked third and nurses, fourth. For postnatal care, however, the priority shifted. Doctors were commonly consulted first, midwives second and *hilots* third. Nurses remained as the fourth choice.

50 percent of pregnant Filipinas had anemia, 5 percent higher than those who are undernourished according to the 1998 NDHS survey

81 percent of pregnant Filipinas received iron capsules according to a 2001 National Census and Statistics Office (NSO) survey. This is up from the 74 percent of pregnant women who received iron capsules in 1997. The survey also revealed an increasing number of pregnant women who received iodine capsules, from 51 percent in 1997 to 64.4 percent in 2001.

Moms to be

549,265 were registered as brides and future mothers in the country in 1998

572,955 was the number of brides and future mothers in the country in 2000, up by 4 percent over the number of registered new brides in 1998.

18 percent of newly registered brides or almost ¼ of total number of brides in the country were wed in Metro Manila.

Family planning

3.15 is the recent number of projected children per Filipino woman

14 percent of mothers use pills as contraceptive. The pill remains as the most popular contraceptive among Filipinas, followed by female sterilization, 10.6 percent; calendar or rhythm method, 9.5 percent according to the 2000 Family Planning Survey.

47 percent is the contraceptive prevalence rate (or the proportion of 11,031,000 married women reporting current use of contraceptive) in 2000

1.3 percent of 11,031,000 married women surveyed by NSO preferred condom. A higher percentage, 4.8 percent of married Filipinas preferred withdrawal

35-39 years old is the age bracket of Filipinas where contraceptive use is highest. Contraceptive use is lowest among the young, among the 15-19 years old.

10 percent of Filipinas with surviving children 0 to 35 months of age never breast-fed according to the 2001 Maternal and Child Health survey of the NSO. The most frequent reason cited is insufficiency of breast milk. The other problems are nipple problems; mothers were working; the infant refused to drink breast milk; the mother or the child was ill or weak; the mother became pregnant again; or that the mother started using contraceptives again.

Compiled by PDI Research (Chona Galang, Michael Cucio and Minerva Generalao)

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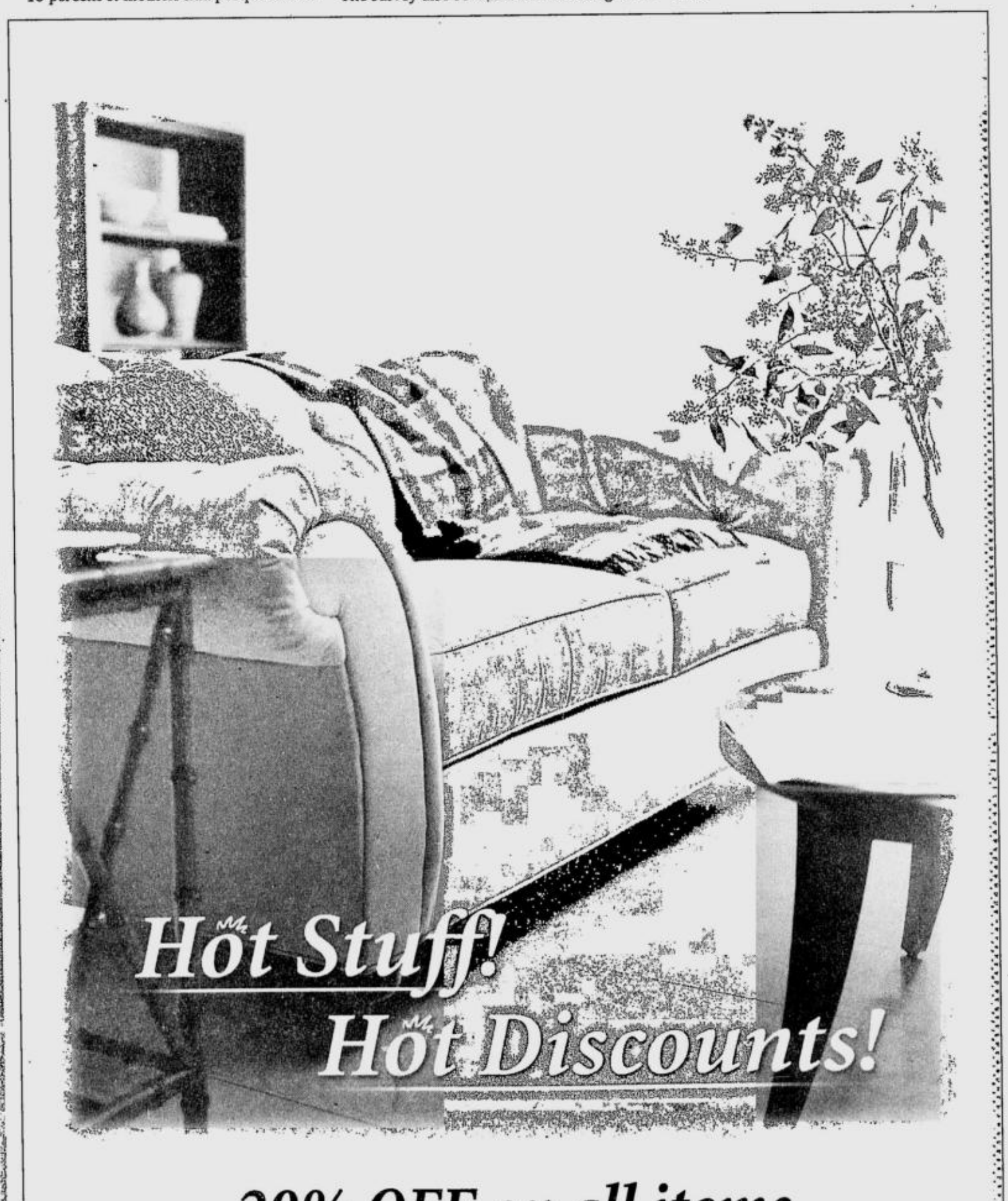

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Oh, those wet and wild Frenchmen!

NEWLYWEDS Christophe Lejeune and Lala Gamboa, photographed by Dael Diaz

THE PUNTA
Fuego cove

By Tessa Prieto-Valdes

A PICTURE-PERFECT sunset, a spectacular ocean view, gastronomic fare, limitless French wine and randy Frenchmen—all these made the Lejeune-Gamboa wedding *inoubliable*. (That's French for incredibly unforgettable.)

I will describe the French men separately because they were just unbelievable. From the afternoon wedding ceremony at the Lady of Guadalupe Chapel at Punta Fuego to the beachfront reception, the whole affair was intimate yet extremely fun.

Almost a year ago, **Christophe Lejeune** didn't know that he would marry the girl who sang with the Tropical Depression reggae band at his birthday party. In fact, **Lala Gamboa** herself was not even sure she was going out with Christophe.

When my husband **Dennis** asked how she knew Christophe, her response was, "Well, I think we're supposed to be seeing each other." The truth of the matter is that they were only on the fifth day of their relationship.

Their initial encounter started with an argument over the phone. Christophe called Firma Malate to order some furniture and Lala, the store manager, took the call and got into a debate over the size of the sofa. From that start, I guess they got their first taste of a married couple's tiff.

To add to that colorful start, Christophe asked her out—in front of her date at a party in Fidel. Are the French really hopeless romantics? Or, do they have just the flair to make moves like that?

Well, all doubts were banished when they got married one summer day last March. The wedding Mass was in the early afternoon and the dinner reception was at the beach club. So most of the guests had time to hang out the infinity pool at the club house and start the cocktail hour in between.

Sexy

Lala, in her sexy bikini, was into her second costume change created by her talented designer, **Raoul Ramirez**. With his asymmetrically designed gown of French lace and silk, Raoul created a unique look for Lala.

Christophe, on the other hand, donned his beach wear after changing from his very elegant Silk Cocoon barong.

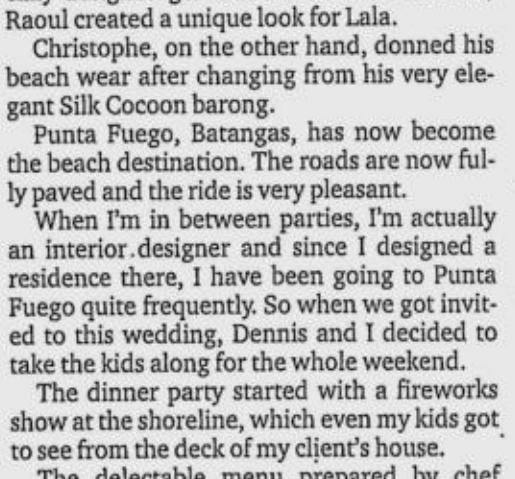
Punta Fuego, Batangas, has now become the beach destination. The roads are now fully paved and the ride is very pleasant.

When I'm in between parties, I'm actually an interior designer and since I designed a residence there, I have been going to Punta Fuego quite frequently. So when we got invited to this wedding, Dennis and I decided to take the kids along for the whole weekend.

The dinner party started with a fireworks show at the shoreline, which even my kids got to see from the deck of my client's house.

The delectable menu prepared by chef **Rolando Laudico** was complete with an appetizer buffet and dessert bar. His wife, Jackie, was on hand to make sure the yummy chocolate cakes were in order.

OH/ G2



JET-SET guests New York-based Lily O'Boyle and Parisienne Luz Pacios with former Secretary Oscar Orbos in a sunset photo with the couple

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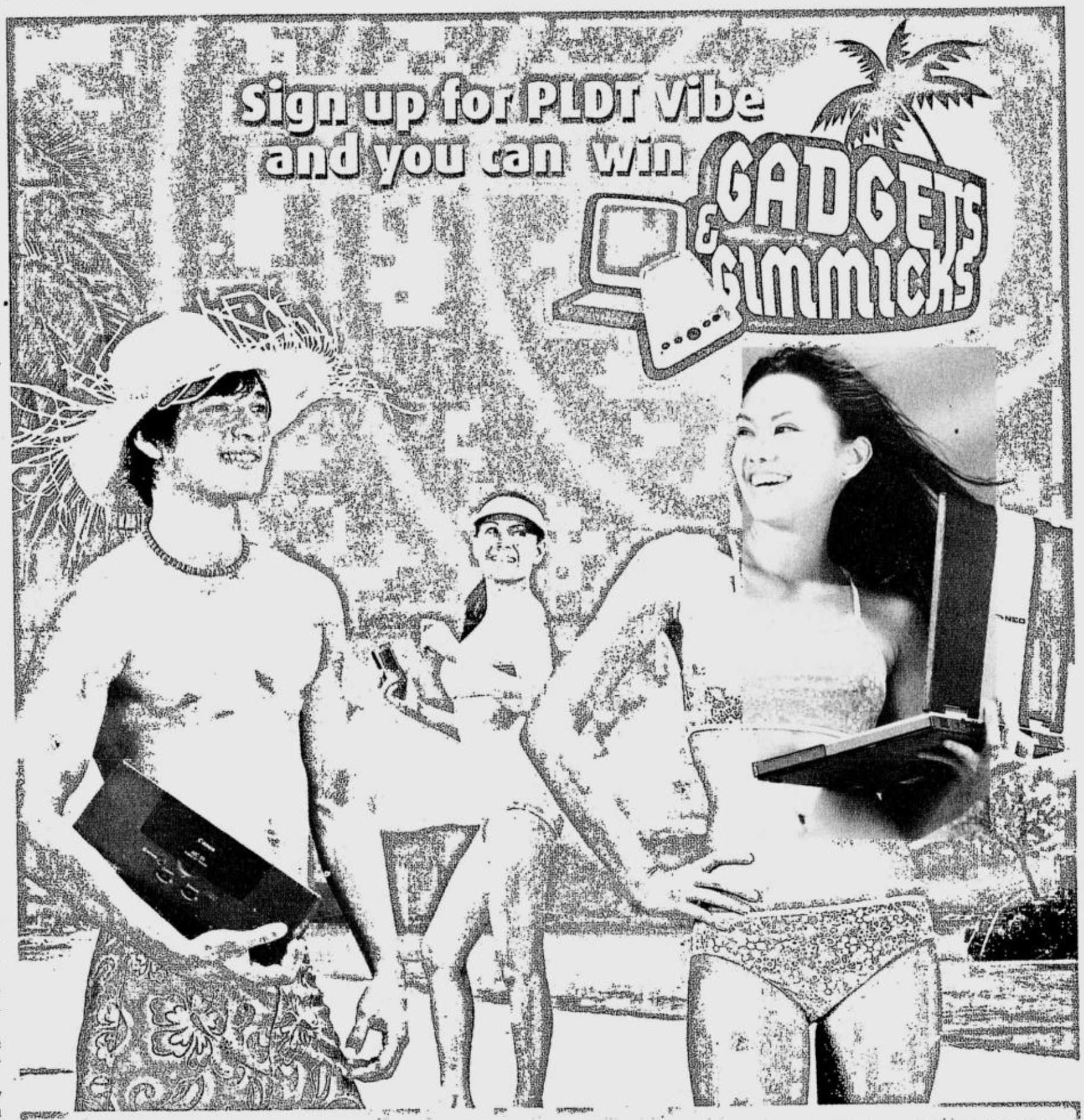

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5. Only entries received until May 30, 2003, 7:00pm are qualified to join.
6. Raffle entries will be drawn electronically. Draw will be held in PLDT's Main Office in Ramon Cojuangco Bldg., Dela Rosa corner Makati Avenue, Makati City in the presence of a DTI representative.
7. There will be five weekly draws and a grand draw scheduled as follow:
   - April 28 (Monday) 1st weekly draw
   - May 5 (Monday) 2nd weekly draw
   - May 12 (Monday) 3rd weekly draw
   - May 19 (Monday) 4th weekly draw
   - May 26 (Monday) 5th weekly draw
   - May 31 (Saturday) Grand Draw
8. Non-winning entries per draw still qualify for the succeeding weekly draws and grand draw.
9. An applicant can only win once in a draw. If a name wins more than once, he gets the bigger prize.
10. Prizes are transferable but not convertible to cash.
11. All prizes are tax free.
12. GMA winners may claim their prize from PLDT's Marketing Services at the 5th floor of Ramon Cojuangco Bldg. Dela Rosa corner Makati Avenue, Makati City. To claim the prizes, they must present valid ID and notification letter. For provincial winners, PLDT will send their respective prizes to their address via courier.
13. Gift certificates are valid for one (1) year from date of issuance.
14. Redemption period for the prizes will be 60 days from notification.
15. Prizes not claimed after 60 days will be forfeited.

See flyers and posters for more details. Per DTI-NCR permit # 1644 series of 2003.

NEVER-TOO-LATE stage actress Pinky Amador with Mia Borromeo

COZY twosome: Rosan Cruz and Donatien Monod

COOLEST couple: Celine Lopez and Victor Consunji

FUSION chef Rolando Laudico with charming wife Jackie

ENJOYING the French wine: Pepper Teehankee and Patrick Reyno

STILL with her clothes on: Claire and hunk hubby Romain Barberis

Oh, those wet and wild Frenchmen!

From page G1

Endless French wine and liquor were consumed by the buckets. Christophe made sure the ratio of booze to guests was 10:1.

The party got wild when several French delegates got so "animated" and jumped into the pool naked. Actually, they were not really sloshed but just plain outrageous.

Better view

We got an even better view when they got out of the pool and grabbed the table linens, which were several meters away. But the show was not over yet, as they then convinced the groom to moon the remaining guests.

Of course, by this time all the guests were too bleary-eyed to do a full inspection. It was like Lala's Shower Part 2. To think that in her first shower, there were professional dancers and strippers. This other show was, hands down, even more entertaining.

Olivier Passicos of the Nestlé water group was the first to jump in the pool, followed by **Romain Barberis**. (Christophe told me that in his own wedding, Olivier put on a thong, which was a wedding present, and danced to the delight of the guests. So, jumping naked in the pool is well, literally nothing for this Frenchman).

Romain and Olivier got **Rosan Cruz**'s beau, **Donatien Monod**, to jump in as well. So now we all know what Rosan misses when her boyfriend is not in town. They also got one of the younger *ninongs* in the water.

Though **Jacques Dupasquier** was thrown with his clothes on, we shall leave the rest to the imagination. **Dudo Vaca** was nowhere to be found. Could he be hydrophobic perhaps?

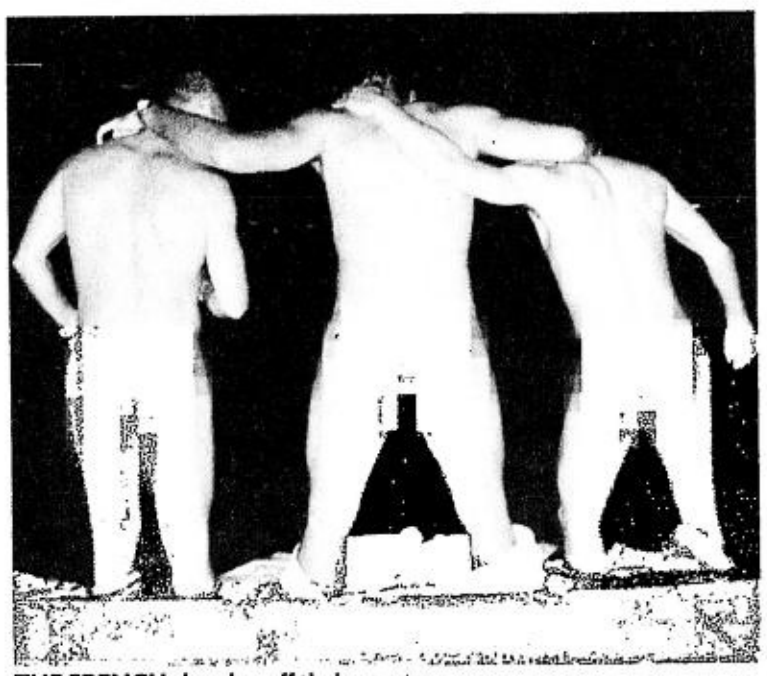
So, what words can I use to describe the French men? The virgins among us, like **Heidi Ng**, would say, "*C'est magnifique*!" (totally awesome). They really know how to have fun.

The wedding of Firma manager Lala Gamboa to French beau Christophe Lejeune showed how hopelessly romantic—and naked—French men are

FRANCO-FIL UNION. Manuel Gamboa, Monique Lejeune, the newlyweds, Erlinda Gamboa and Jean Lejeune

MANILA'S still eligible bachelors Dudo Vaca and best man Jacques Dupasquier

A MOONLIT pose of bosom friends Segalit Djemal and Camille Santos


THE FRENCH showing off their assets.

FIREWORKS exploding with beauties watching: Julie Parent, Sharmela Hiranand and Junie Peña

VIVA La Philippines!

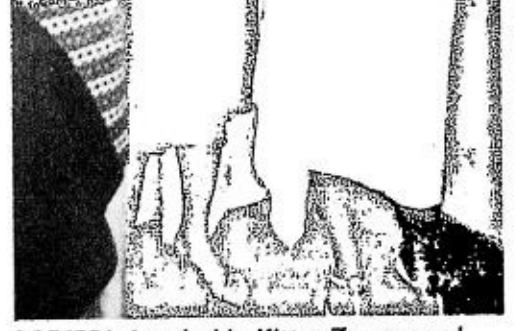
THE FRENCH ladies in waiting: Nathalie Passicos, Tiphaine Denis and Julie Parent

ARTSY friends: Kitten Zamora, Firma Malate partners Richard Danao and Markus Schmidt and gown designer Raoul Ramirez

Maybe the newest, forthcoming Lejeune baby will have as many French traits as his father plus the spunkiness of his mother.

In my next party, I will just make sure to invite these randy Frenchmen and be sure there's a pool around!

VIVE LA FRANCE! Cooling off the French way: the groom, Olivier Passicos, Donatien Monod and Romain Barberis


LADIES in beach chic: Kitten Zamora and the blushing bride, both in Ramirez creations, with pretty-in-pink Mia Borromeo

THE NEWLYWEDS take a sunset break by the infinite pool with the Sea Princess in her Kate Turalba creation.

BASKING beauties enjoying the cocktail hour: Rosan Cruz, Isabelle Allix, Mia Borromeo and Claire Barberis

She's still in love with a heartbreaker

LIVE AND LET LIVE

Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

Allan and I became sweethearts two years ago. I thought I finally got what I have been praying for, a man who would love me for what I am. Not only am I 30 years old already, I have polio and walk with a big limp.

Allan is a town mate. We met in Manila, where I am working and he was studying. He has a girlfriend, Dina. Still I agreed to be his girl because I felt that given my condition, no one else would pay me attention like he did.

Fearing that I would lose him to Dina, I gave myself to him. When I asked about marriage, he said he would like to finish his studies first, which meant that I would have to trust him. But that trust was broken when I called Dina and learned that he had slept with her too and, contrary to what he told me, Allan hadn't told her that I was already a part of his life. Confronted, Allan emphasized that he slept with me first. Maybe he wanted to suggest that I attracted him more, but I also felt it could mean that I was simply more willing.

I felt betrayed and depressed I couldn't work. My family blamed me for trusting him, but they were more mad at Allan. He stopped his studies and went back to our town. Later, Dina broke up with him, too. Allan and I have kept in touch by phone as friends. I've gone home several times for the holidays and he visited me. I could feel I still love him and would like to embrace him.

I am thinking of resigning from my job and going back to our town. I'll probably be jobless there and be a burden to my family, but I know that I'll heal faster being with the people who love me. It has been many months but I still can't get over mourning my past and worrying about my future.

SARAH

Being with your family can help your heart heal. But still the best way to get over the past is to stay away from Allan physically and mentally. That certainly won't happen if you go back to your hometown. There, he will be just a short ride away while you'll be unemployed, brooding in the house—conditions that will only set your mind to quickly and frequently dwell on him.

That's why your apparent determination to go home strikes me less as an attempt to forget Allan than as a move to revive your relationship. After all, when you're in your hometown, you'll have again the situation that helped so much in making you sweethearts in Manila: you'll be accessible and available to each other.

But the issue now is not accessibility and availability, but love. If he truly loves you, then—whether you are in Manila or in your hometown—he'll go to you and tell you so. And if he does not love you, then the more there is no need for you to hang around.

What you really need most now, I believe, is not Allan but self-respect. And you won't gain a good amount of that if in your relationship with Allan (or with any man who might later come to your life) you continue to over-compensate for your physical disability.

You have been over-compensating for that at the price of self-respect. You agreed to be Allan's girlfriend, even if he already had one, because you felt that given your disability, no one else would pay attention to you. Then, to overcome the advantage of Dina's normal physique, you gave Allan what Dina had not: your virginity.

And now, to compensate for whatever undesirability Allan might still see in you, you plan to humble yourself before him again and go to where he is.

Allan might have broken your heart but he has given you one good lesson: It does not pay to treat yourself inferior. A physical disability might make a person look different on the outside, but inside he is still like any other person and deserves respect.

E-mail titadulce@netscape.net or send letters to P.O. Box 2353, Makati CPO 1263 Makati City, or PDI, Chino Roces Avenue corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City

Free tickets

BAYAN Telecommunications Inc. (BayanTel) and Future Resources Inc., the outfit behind Dino Expo show at Ever Gotesco Commonwealth, have joined hands to allow BayanTel subscribers to see the show for free. For every P1,000 long-distance bill paid from March 28 to May 31, or P1,000 worth of BayanTel Afford-a-call international call cards, subscribers can get free Dino Expo theme park tickets. Also, Ang Sarap Maging BayanTel Subscriber members get an additional 30-percent off on additional tickets purchased.

Kiddie fair

MOMS and kids will get lots of treats at Babies N' Kids Fair Year 2 on May 17-18 at South Court of Rockwell Power Plant Mall. The event will showcase the country's finest kiddie party organizers, maternity wear designers, cake artists, photographers and caterers. The fun starts at 10 a.m. with free gift items, Mommy Pages, face painting and play salon sessions, Gymboree bubble show, parachute and storytime, hands-on arts & crafts demos. Call 371-9783.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

'MATRIX'-INSPIRED fashion for Fall-Winter 2003: from left, Dolce & Gabbana, Balenciaga, Hedi Slimane and Sean Jean (aka rapper P Diddy)

Long wait is over—Matrix is back

T'NT TRENDS & TRENDINGS

Anton San Diego

This year, there will be not only one but two Matrix movies

MUST-WATCH movie—"The Matrix Reloaded." This is the most eagerly anticipated summer movie of 2003. It's been four years since we last saw the characters Neo (**Keanu Reeves**), Morpheus (**Lawrence Fishburne**), Trinity (**Carrie Anne Moss**) and the world of the Matrix. This year, there will be not only one but two Matrix movies, the other one to be released in the latter part of the year.

The movie really changed the way we viewed sci-fi films. It questioned the nature of reality and truth and drew inspiration from both Eastern and Western philosophies and spirituality.

Not since the "Blade Runner" has there been an action film as stylish and cool as this one—the settings, costumes (especially Neo's black leather trench coat), and the mood.

The Matrix look is so huge that designers included it in their Fall/Winter 2003 collection *(See photos)*. And even if you're not into all that, "The Matrix Reloaded" is still the perfect movie to entertain yourself.

"The Matrix Reloaded" opens this Wednesday all over the metropolis.

Must-have athletic gear—Puma 96. In the last couple of years, Puma has pulled itself from near extinction as an athletic gear to become one of the most highly coveted and hip apparel. The company has churned everything from exciting street wear, yoga gear to the latest Puma 96 collection.

TIME COVER. The eagerly anticipated 'The Matrix Reloaded'

The new collection was designed by **Neil Barrett.** It is made up of 27 pieces from shirts, shorts, underwear and shoes that fit into their very own sleek luggage. The collection, combining functionality and style, was designed with the "minimalist business traveler" in mind. Business trips usually take four nights/five days. An overnight version is also available.

Top hairstylist in town. Australia's top stylist and one of the world's foremost experts in hairstyling, **Philip Ellis** will be in Manila May 9-24. He brings with him 20 years of experience and an established name not only in his country but around the world.

Ellis will be at the super hot F salon at the First Aid, 2/L Greenbelt 3 mall. For reservations, call 757-4976. This guy is sure to bring out the very best in you. So book now!

TNT tidbits

What a feeling! If you have leg warmers, don't throw them away just yet. **J. Lo** is set to do a remake of the '80s movie hit "Flashdance." I really loved that film. J. Lo might not be the best person to redo it, but she is a good dancer and can carry a tune, so it may just work.

Filipino designer in Surface magazine. One of the most in demand and coolest avant-garde magazines, Surface, featured designer **Kenneth Cobonpue**'s furniture in its spring fashion issue. It's always heartwarming to see creativity and artistic genius get recognized beyond our shores.

Reality seekers. Good news for all reality television addicts like me. "Amazing Race 4" will premiere on May 30 and the new "Fear Factor" on May 12, both on AXN. Hope there are good-looking couples and twins, and funny brothers, in the new seasons!

Fashion watch. Last Wednesday, I caught the Manila Fashion Festival 2003 at the NBC Tent. Although it was long and I had some I'd-rather-be-home-watching-TV moments, there were a lot of promise and highlights. But, as with any good article, you want to hear the bad side first so here goes:

Cheesy models. Women who have chosen modeling as their profession need to work out or undergo liposuction. I do not know what's worse: seeing bad clothes on the runway or women whose stretch marks, cellulite and fat can be seen a mile away (think: bright lights!). If you pinch your leg and it begins to look like blue cheese, then you can't strut like you're **Gisele** when you're really a "before" in a **Vicky Belo** ad.

Clutch bags. I saw the most horrific thing on the runway—the return of the clutch bag. I

LONG/ H3

HOTTER-THAN-HOT ATHLETIC GEAR. Puma 96 collection

Simply expressive
MODERN LOVE 2
Stephen Speaks · Mandy Moore · Westlife · Blue · Britney Spears · 'N Sync · The Corrs · Backstreet Boys
EVANESCENCE
Fallen
Kyla
I will be there
MADONNA
AMERICAN LIFE
ADVISORY
Regine Velasquez
Greatest Hits
SMART MUSIC LINK
Various Artists
Walkingaway
MUSIC 209
TONE keyword 209
MMS keyword 209*
TOWER RECORDS · VIDEO · BOOKS
Top 25 Albums of the Week
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1 dieanother americanlyf
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3 werlbelong dontstay faint lyingfru figure fidlnsyd llstening
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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

MICHEL Lhuillier, Victoria Vasquez, Amparito Lhuillier and Anton San Diego

AMBASSADOR Renee Veyret with Marit and Tito Yuchengco

AMBASSADOR and Mme. Paul Dimond

Fine wines and DNA diversions

The French love their wine, the Brits tout their science

DR. WILLIAM Padolina

THE DINNER was sumptuous, stupendous and utterly delicious. Anthony's Wines & Spirits (read: dynamic **Tita Trillo**) was serious about throwing a gastronomic feast.

Ostensibly, it was all about choosing a Miss Mouton Cadet, who would be invited to the Cannes Film Festival later this month. But it was also about a formal seven-course meal complemented by some really great wines by Baron Philippe de Rothschild at Shangri-La Hotel.

For those of you who haven't been tempted by the pleasures of the vine by *soigne* Tita Trillo, here are some suggestions.

Mouton Cadet Blanc (or Rouge '00 if you prefer) goes marvelously well with lobsters and scallops in champagne aspic with beluga caviar and chives. You may want to try the Baron 'argues '99 if you're having smoked venison loin with truffle crusted foie gras and fig confit, as we did.

We also had Blue Crab cappuccino with tarragon aioli. I have to confess that by this time I couldn't finish the grilled beef tenderloin and BBQ eel with white asparagus and potatoes Dauphinoise. But, don't by the hair on your chinny-chin-chin miss out on the Chilean Almaviva '99. It's like you died and went to heaven but were awakened by a raspberry creme brulée and mint dark chocolate mousse complemented by a cool, wonderful Sauternes '98. (Did I mention I'm putting on weight? Sigh. Naturally.)

Both French Ambassador **Renee Veyret** and Britannic Majesty's Ambassador **Paul Dimond** hosted a reception at his residence for colleagues in the diplomatic Corps, Philippine and British business leaders, NGOs and the scientific community.

Last February there was a training workshop for DNA analysts, judges and lawyers in cooperation with the UP National Science Research Institute, the European Commission, the Institute of Environmental Science and Research and the Philippine Judicial Academy.

Those interested in improving their IQ should get a hold of the "DNA-50" CD-ROM produced by the British government. It shows you the applications of this amazing discovery for genetic and clinical diseases, novel drug design, molecular anthropology, forensic DNA technology and other such erudite and entertaining subjects.

DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

By Amiga

M. **Thierry De Dourniel**, sales director for Rothschild Asia Pacific, beamed proudly at this impressive array of French savoir faire and talent.

Among the guests were grand dames of cuisine **Myrna Seguismundo** and **Micky Fenix**; quintessential lifestyle editor **Jullie Yap-Daza**; **Amparito Lhuillier**, who sparkled even if she claimed she'd gone home at 5 a.m. after partying with **Michel**; of course, **Tito** and **Marit Yuchengco**, who are off to Europe but with grandma **Elena Colomé** baby-sitting in the meantime; **Victoria Vasquez**; Rep. **Teddyboy** and **Louie Locsin**; **Larry Cruz**; **Jeannie** and **Sydney Goulborn**, there to give support to sister **Frances Lim**; and Tatler's **Irene Martel** and debonair **Anton San Diego**, who writes of Manila's legendary people without their feet of clay, of course.

And the lucky winners were **Jennifer Santi**, Ateneo Math professor, and **Frances Lim**, marketing director of Silk Cocoon, off to enjoy the balmy breezes of Cannes this month.

* * *

In a fitting tribute to mark the 50th anniversary of the DNA helix in the UK (if you don't know what that is I'm not telling), Her

THIERRY de Dourniel and Tita Trillo

PHOTOS BY BETOY JOHNSON

REP. Teddyboy Locsin and Larry Cruz

JEANNIE and Sydney Goulbourn

DR. CARMENCITA Padilla, Perla Santos Ocampo, Ambassador Ruth Pearce and Katy Parks

ROMANIA'S Radu Homescu

AMBASSADOR Robert Collette and Dr. Bruce Muller

DR. Corazon de Ungria

Company wins awards for commitment to customer service

By anticipating, and providing for, every client's need, Globe Telecom has won honors here and abroad

THE ABILITY to overcome challenges has marked Globe's performance so far. Its innovations and emphasis on customer service have put it ahead in the market and the men and women of Globe nurture this competitive edge with zeal, discipline and pride.

With the current demand for carefully customized solutions, Globe Telecom relies on innovative and relevant technologies to respond to the need. Globe is committed to provide its clients any innovation or breakthrough to meet their growing need to stay in touch.

GLOBE'S Delfin Gonzales is a twice-named CFO of the Year

From being a data and voice provider, Globe has evolved into a full-service telecommunications company offering a wide range of products and services. Globe now offers cellular phone service, fixed telephone lines, Internet access, Inter-Exchange Carrier services, and other domestic data communications services.

It foresaw the shift in telephony technology and demand to GSM (Global System for Mobile communications).

Globe has not ceased to strive for excellence, backed as it is by three business giants—Ayala Corporation, Singapore Telecom International and Deutsche Telekom.

The company has earned a reputation for being an innovator. It was first to introduce text messaging, first in MMS (Multi-media Messaging Service) and video messaging, and first in international prepaid roaming.

Globe continues to adapt, stay in touch with the outside world, and anticipate development and forthcoming changes. It also continues to innovate.

Globe's ability to keep up with the times paved the way for the entry of well known products and services like Globe Handyphone cellular phone service, Globelines wireline service, myGlobe e-services, GlobeQUEST data services, and, of course, Touch Mobile prepaid wireless service.

GLOBE president and CEO Gerardo Ablaza Jr. (right) receives Globe's FEER award.

GLOBE serves its customers 24 hours a day.

Top telecom group

Globe's sterling performance has put it among the top telecom companies in the country. It has received high ratings from publications like FinanceAsia, Far Eastern Economic Review (FEER) and Asia Money. It also received the Anvil and Gold Quill Awards.

The year 2002 was one of Globe Telecom's best and the company remains among the Philippines' best managed company, ranked by FEER fourth in leadership, third in quality of products and services, second most innovative firm in the Philippines and in meeting Customer Needs, and fourth among companies that others try to emulate.

Globe was ranked second Best Managed Company in the Philippines by FinanceAsia magazine.

Senior Vice President for Finance Delfin Gonzales was named Best Chief Financial Officer for the second straight year.

Also recently, Forbes magazine recognized Globe as one of the "Best Under a Billion 200 Companies for 2002." Of 20,000 companies outside the United States with less than US$1 billion in revenue, only two Philippine companies were on the list.

Globe Telecom was one of the "winningest" in the 38th Anvil Awards of the Public Relations Society of the Philippines held recently. It received four Anvil Awards of Merit for its magazine The Globe Spectrum, the Globe Telecom Academic Achievement Awards program, the Speak regional ad campaign, and the 2002 Cebu Press Freedom Week event.

Globe received an Award of Merit for its Habitat for Humanity Campaign, *Sandaan Mo, Siyang Daan Ko* (Share A Hundred, Build More Homes) in the 2003 Gold Quill Awards of the International Association of Business Communicators Philippines (IABC/Philippines) this year.

Globe Telecom was also the overall winner of the 2002 PANA Values Award given by the Philippine Association of National Advertisers. Its winning ad was its television commercial "Katrina,"

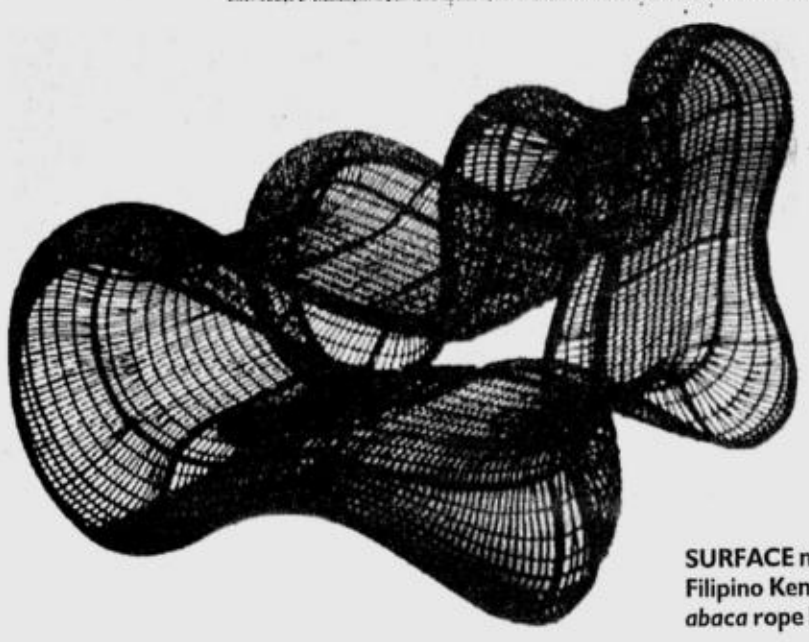
GLOBE'S TV commercial "Katrina" wins a Pana Overall Values Award.

which depicted a young girl's relationship with her parents. The ad was cited for touching the hearts of television viewers and contributing to the promotion of family values.

Globe became a Hall of Fame Awardee of the Consumers Union of the Philippines, having received the Outstanding Cellular Service Company Award for five years. The company also received the 2002 Excellence Awards for Quality as the Most Outstanding Cellular Network Provider.

"We are very happy that Globe Telecom is recognized as one of the best companies not only in the Philippines but also in Asia," says Globe Telecom president and CEO Gerardo Ablaza, Jr. "This is very encouraging as it reflects the strong performance of our company."

GLOBE'S innovations and its commitment to serve customers' needs have led it to many awards and citations.



SURFACE magazine feature: Filipino Kenneth Cobonpue's *abaca* rope Pigalle seat

Long wait is over...

From page H1

got so scared I really did not want to look but there it was. My two cents' worth: disgusting, uncool and totally tacky. I have always had an aversion for such things maybe because, in the '70s, the only reason men used them was to have something for carrying their guns.

Think about how many things a man can put in his bag—wallet, phone, car keys. If they have more than that (think: mirror, lipstick, face blotters, mints, etc.) then they should just use a handbag.

Hitler sponsors. First, let me say that TNT loves sponsors. Without them a show can't get done. But when the sponsors go for the "our-brand-should-be-plastered-everywhere" look, then watch out! Arrivals at the Tent were greeted by a huge signage in glaring hot pink. Every time a brand was introduced, the sign would show the brand as well. It was like watching a Pinoy awards night.

We even received a free sample as we left the tent, in this case a fabric detergent. TNT's advice to sponsors: we know you love your product, but go for subtlety—less unnerving and irritating to guests.

Now for the highlights: first, congratulations are in order for **Robbie Carmona**, the director of the show, for the great sounds, staging, visuals and lighting. Most brands showed knee-length cargo pants worn with stilettos, which I think should be one of the signature looks for women for Summer 2003.

The A-capella group for the Sari Sari segment was absolutely great. It was fun and energetic and, most importantly, it woke me up!

Hindy Tantoco for U of Rustan's had a strong and focused look, unlike the others who went for the shotgun approach. You know, blasting different styles just to make sure everyone liked something.

But the best of the lot was my favorite brand, Tyler, whose clothes were impeccable and really stood out. Congratulations to **Eman** and **Patty Pineda** and Tyler's creative team. The collection was streamlined, hip and fashion forward (think: showing new styles and not sticking to what's in every other store). The staging was unique. Models came out one by one lip-synching **Elton John's** "Your Song." It was so good I got goose bumps! Although Tyler was last out of eight brands (each having like 15 minutes, or was it longer?), it was simply worth the wait!

E-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

A	C	H	E	D		M	E	T	E	O	R		A	D	S		P	G	A
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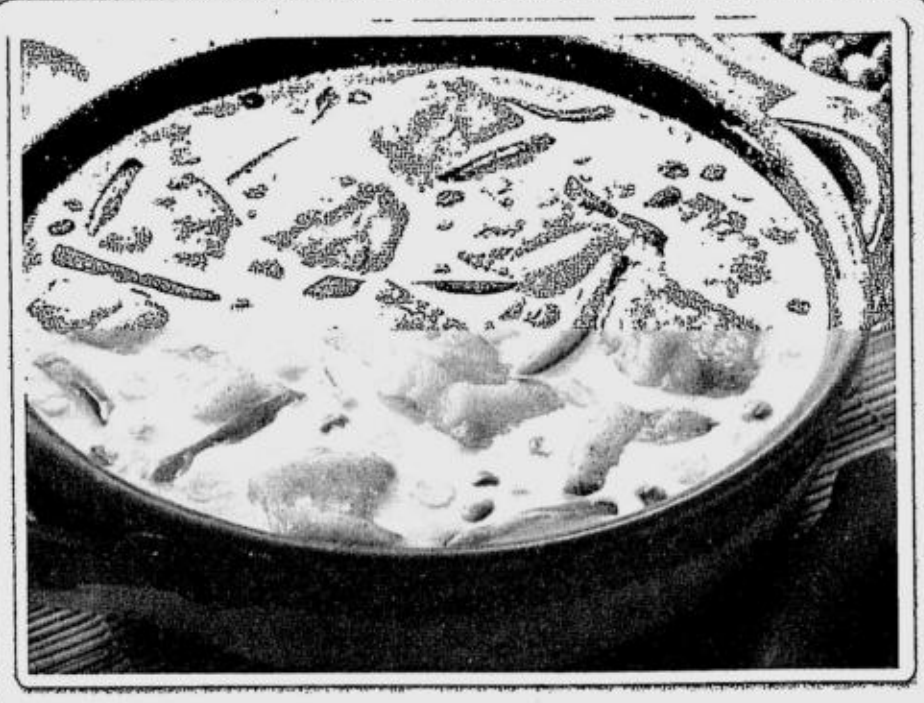


Fish & Bell Pepper Stew

For Mom's day, try a hearty and satisfying creamy seafood dish.

Ingredients:

2 tbsp	butter or margarine	(1) 378ml can	CARNATION Evap
2 tbsp	chopped onions	1/2 cup	water
2 pcs	green bell peppers, strips	600gms	white fish fillet, cut into 1" cubes
2 pcs	red bell pepper, strips		
1 pack	Maggi Flavor-It Shrimp or Fish broth cube	1/2 cup	frozen peas, thawed
		1/2 cup	corn kernels
			salt and pepper to taste

Procedure:

1. Sauté the onions, red and green pepper in the butter. Add the Maggi Flavor-It or broth cube together with the CARNATION Evap and the water. Bring down to a simmer.
2. Season the fish fillet with salt and pepper and add to the milk mixture. Cook over low heat until fish is done. Add the peas and carrots. Simmer till done.
3. Taste and adjust accordingly. Serve hot.

Yield: Six(6) to Eight (8) servings
Preparation Time: Thirty (30) minutes
Cooking Time: Forty-five (45) minutes

Mango Feather Cake

Delicious and sweet dessert for Mom's special day.

Ingredients:

18 to 20 pcs	broas or lady fingers
1/2 cup	Nestlé All-Purpose Cream
1 cup	CARNATION Condensada
1/2 cup	butter
2 pcs	ripe mangoes, cubed

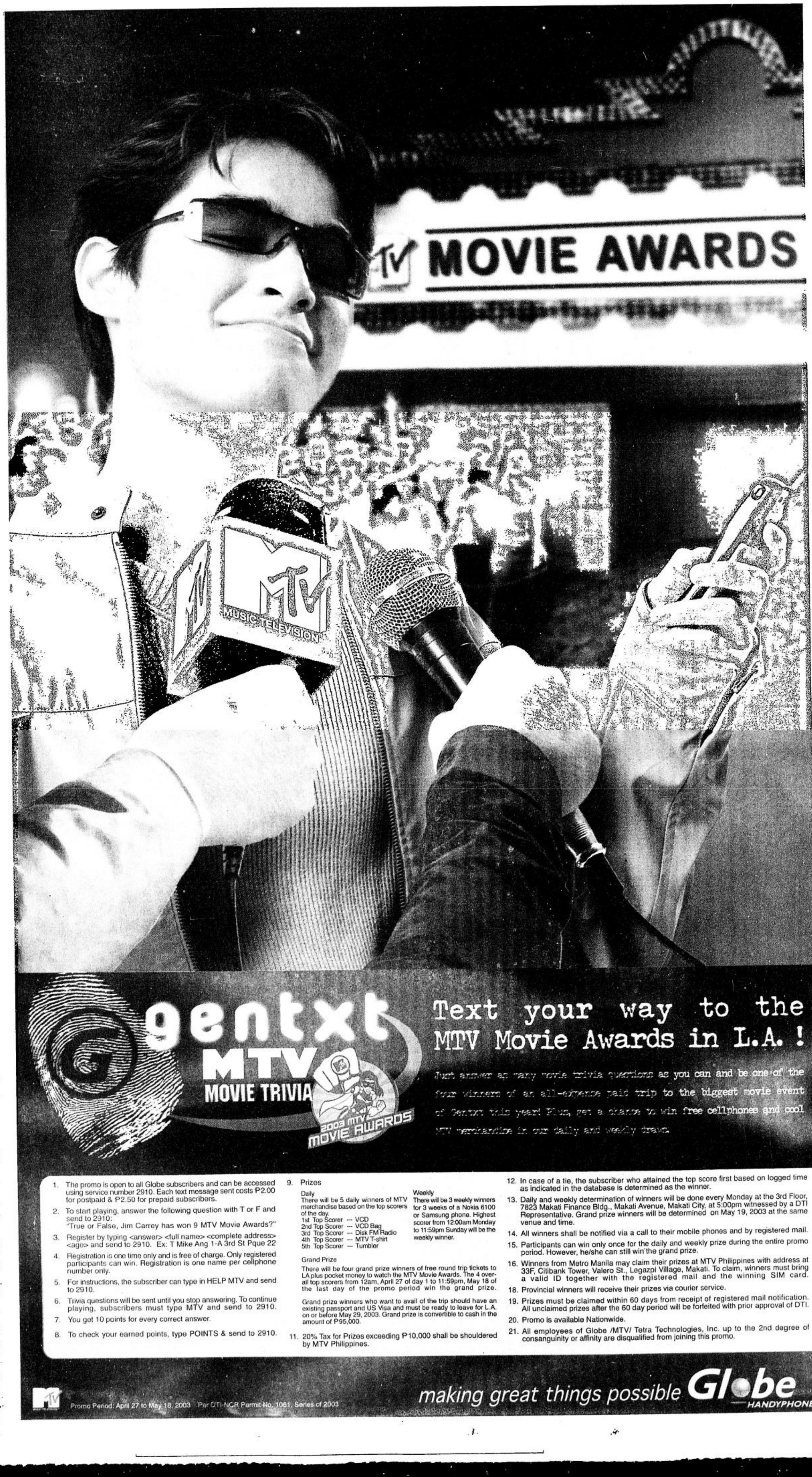
For the topping:

2 pcs	ripe mangoes, thinly sliced
1 box	Nestlé All-Purpose Cream, chilled and whipped

Procedure:

1. Line a 9" x 9" or 8" x 8" pan with a layer of broas.
2. Using a double boiler, cook the CARNATION Condensada with Nestlé All-Purpose Cream until thick. Stir in butter and cubed mangoes. Cool.
3. Pour half the CARNATION Condensada with Nestlé All-Purpose Cream mixture over the broas and cover with another layer of broas. Repeat the same process and top with whipped cream and mangoes. Chill until set.

Yield: Eight (8) servings
Preparation Time: Thirty (30) minutes
Cooking Time: Twenty (20) minutes
* needs refrigeration time



1. The promo is open to all Globe subscribers and can be accessed using service number 2910. Each text message sent costs ₱2.00 for postpaid & ₱2.50 for prepaid subscribers.
2. To start playing, answer the following question with T or F and send to 2910:
   "True or False, Jim Carrey has won 9 MTV Movie Awards?"
3. Register by typing <answer> <full name> <complete address> <age> and send to 2910. Ex: T Mike Ang 1-A 3rd St Pque 22
4. Registration is one time only and is free of charge. Only registered participants can win. Registration is one name per cellphone number only.
5. For instructions, the subscriber can type in HELP MTV and send to 2910.
6. Trivia questions will be sent until you stop answering. To continue playing, subscribers must type MTV and send to 2910.
7. You get 10 points for every correct answer.
8. To check your earned points, type POINTS & send to 2910.
9. Prizes

   Daily
   There will be 5 daily winners of MTV merchandise based on the top scorers of the day.
   1st Top Scorer --- VCD
   2nd Top Scorer --- VCD Bag
   3rd Top Scorer --- Disk FM Radio
   4th Top Scorer --- MTV T-shirt
   5th Top Scorer --- Tumbler

   Weekly
   There will be 3 weekly winners for 3 weeks of a Nokia 6100 or Samsung phone. Highest scorer from 12:00am Monday to 11:59pm Sunday will be the weekly winner.

   Grand Prize
   There will be four grand prize winners of free round trip tickets to LA plus pocket money to watch the MTV Movie Awards. The 4 overall top scorers from 12am, April 27 of day 1 to 11:59pm, May 18 of the last day of the promo period win the grand prize.

   Grand prize winners who want to avail of the trip should have an existing passport and US Visa and must be ready to leave for L.A. on or before May 29, 2003. Grand prize is convertible to cash in the amount of ₱95,000.
11. 20% Tax for Prizes exceeding ₱10,000 shall be shouldered by MTV Philippines.
12. In case of a tie, the subscriber who attained the top score first based on logged time as indicated in the database is determined as the winner.
13. Daily and weekly determination of winners will be done every Monday at the 3rd Floor, 7823 Makati Finance Bldg., Makati Avenue, Makati City, at 5:00pm witnessed by a DTI Representative. Grand prize winners will be determined on May 19, 2003 at the same venue and time.
14. All winners shall be notified via a call to their mobile phones and by registered mail.
15. Participants can win only once for the daily and weekly prize during the entire promo period. However, he/she can still win the grand prize.
16. Winners from Metro Manila may claim their prizes at MTV Philippines with address at 33F, Citibank Tower, Valero St., Legazpi Village, Makati. To claim, winners must bring a valid ID together with the registered mail and the winning SIM card.
18. Provincial winners will receive their prizes via courier service.
19. Prizes must be claimed within 60 days from receipt of registered mail notification. All unclaimed prizes after the 60 day period will be forfeited with prior approval of DTI.
20. Promo is available Nationwide.
21. All employees of Globe /MTV/ Tetra Technologies, Inc. up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity or affinity are disqualified from joining this promo.

Promo Period: April 27 to May 18, 2003 Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1061, Series of 2003

making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE

LIFESTYLE

EXTOLLING the world-class skill of local pyrotechnics manufacturers

Enchantment in the skies

ENCHANTED Kingdom kicked off its eighth anniversary celebration with its annual fireworks competition.

Eight fireworks manufacturers, representing eight years of the park's successful operations, filled the Sta. Rosa sky with display of color and light.

Six J Fireworks of Bocaue, Bulacan, was adjudged the top winner of the 8th Annual Fireworks Competition by a panel of celebrity judges that included Maricel Soriano, Chito Roño, Inday Badiday, Quest Broadcasting's Bernie Buenaseda, Josefina Arcillas, Lani Mercado, Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho, Sonia Roco,

ENCHANTMENT/ I3

Globe treats you to Häagen-Dazs.
Say goodbye to your diet.

We're giving our very special Globe MMS subscribers this exclusive treat. Now you can have all the Häagen-Dazs you want!

Just download a Globe Summer Bliss MMS coupon, show it at any Häagen-Dazs shop and take out a single cone serving of your favorite flavor for only P29.50. Globe will pay for the rest.

Enjoy unlimited scoops. Download as many coupons as you want or pass them on to friends on Globe MMS.

Hurry! This melt-in-your-mouth goodness is from May 4 to June 4, 2003 only.

*Globe Summer Bliss MMS coupons cost only P20.00 each.

Häagen-Dazs

making great things possible Globe HANDYPHONE

1. The Globe Summer Bliss MMS promo is open to all Globe subscribers – plan or prepaid – using the MMS service. To activate, call Globe's 24-hour customer service hotline at 730-1000 or 211 toll-free on your Globe Handyphone.
2. You can avail of the discount price of P29.50 for every scoop of Häagen-Dazs ice cream on cone by downloading the Globe Summer Bliss MMS coupon from myGlobe WAP site. Cost per download is P20.00
3. You have a choice of downloading the Globe Summer Bliss MMS coupon to your own number or sending it to another Globe subscriber for a number of times provided that the Globe number you are sending it to is also an MMS user and with an MMS capable phone. You will be asked to identify the phone model of the recipient to make sure the coupon is sent to an MMS user only.
4. To download a Globe Summer Bliss MMS coupon, press zero [0] for three seconds to automatically connect to myGlobe WAP site then click on "Globe Summer Bliss"
5. You will be given instructions on how to send the Globe Summer Bliss* MMS message, as well as an alias. The sender may choose to reveal his/her number or not. The designated recipient will then receive the MMS message from 2325.
6. You can download a Globe Summer Bliss MMS coupon as many times as you want to avail of the promo price.
7. To avail of the discount, show your Globe Summer Bliss MMS coupon and message from 2325 at any Häagen-Dazs outlet.
8. The Häagen-Dazs clerk will erase your MMS message once it is validated. Only MMS messages from 2325 will be honored. You will then need to sign a receipt with your name, mobile number, phone model and signature for verification purposes. This will be kept by Häagen-Dazs.
9. Redemption is valid within sixty (60) days from the end of the promo period.

NOTE: MMS-capable handsets: Nokia 3530, 3650, 6100, 6610, 6800, 7210, 7250, 7650, SE T68i, SE P800

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1868, Series of 2003.

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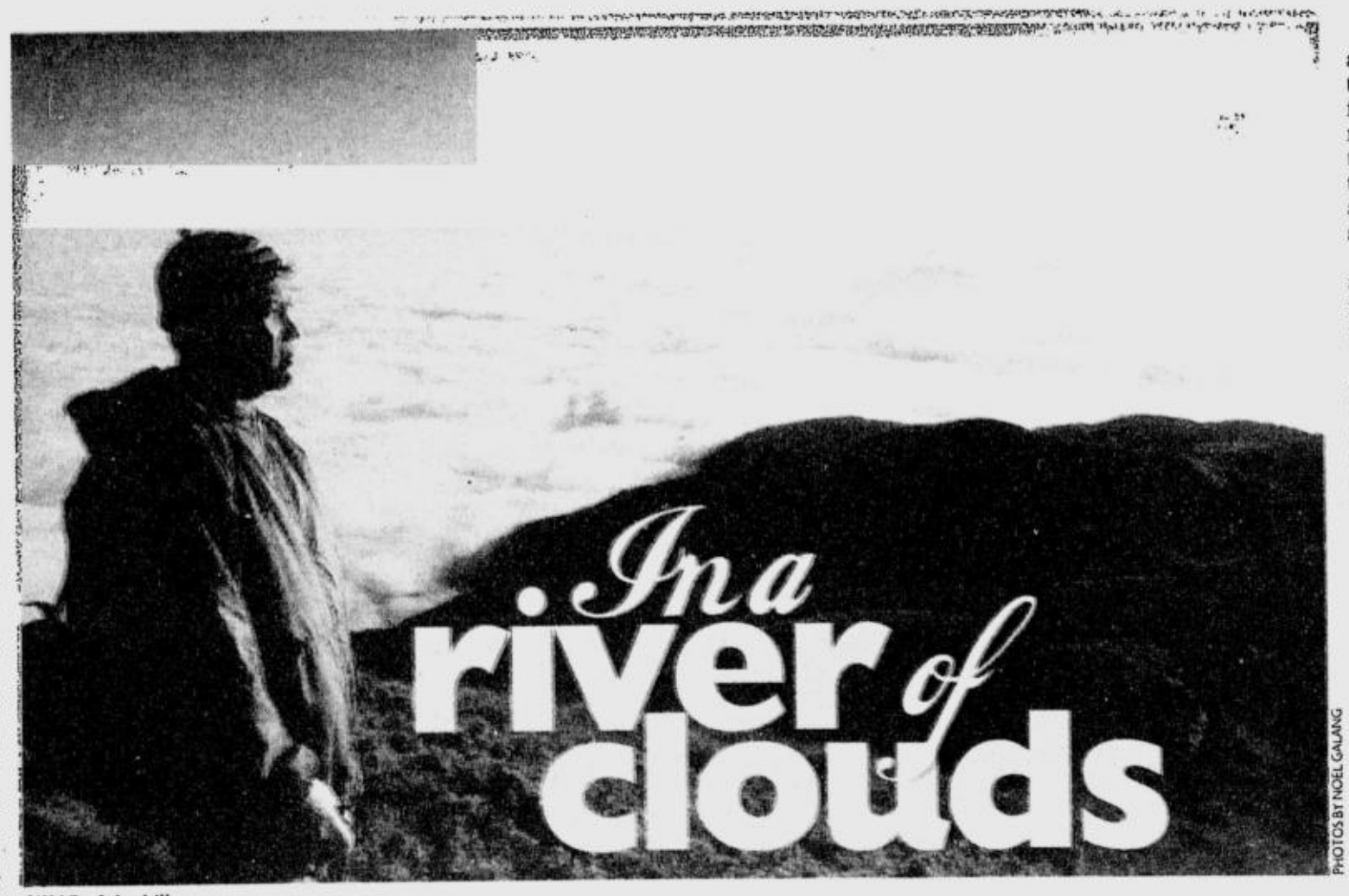
TRAVEL

Editor **Rosario A. Garcellano**



PHOTOS BY NOEL GALANG

KING of the hill

By Mutya Frio
Contributor

MOUNTAINEERING had never been my kind of stuff. It had always been some feat that other people enjoyed doing, a hard-core sport fit only for those who dared. Until recently, when I found myself standing on the summit of Benguet's Mt. Pulag.

About a month before the climb, my colleagues at Escape Outdoors Club Phils. Inc. were all antsy planning the hike to what is hailed as the highest peak in Luzon. Next to Mt. Apo in Mindanao, Pulag is tops on the list of certified mountaineers. I had heard only of experienced hikers who dared assault the summit, never of a woman of 30 who was just plain curious.

I get excited in thinking that this is another test of will for me. But I am also scared. I had been a clumsy hiker, slipping and falling on all fours during a rainy hike in Batad the previous year. The trauma of walking on wobbly legs and the shame of even trying to climb a mountain without due physical preparation are still fresh on my mind.

My doubtful capacity for a long hike isn't the only thing that bothers me. I am beleaguered by a hereditary back problem, and the mere thought of lugging a three-day food supply, insulated clothing, and camping what-have-you already make me wince in imagined pain. Then there is the temperature that is known to drop to below zero. Having a very low tolerance for cold, I fear that my *ukay-ukay* jackets are not enough.

I hesitate many times until the anticipation among my colleagues bubbles over like a witch's brew. I don't want to miss out. After much planning, frenzied text messaging, and endless countdowns to the day of the climb, I and 16 other Escape members set off.

Pulag stands 9,625 feet above sea level. While recent reports put it as second only to Bukidnon's Mt. Dulang Dulang by 50 meters, Pulag promises a spectacular 360-degree view of hills and valleys.

It is a bumpy and dusty jeep ride from Baguio to the DENR Ranger Station where all hikers are obliged to register. You get used to the rugged terrain after a while, but a jeep carrying 17 adults and numerous heavy backpacks can only take so much, especially on a constantly zigzagging road. The jeep gives in twice, two tires deflate—and we are getting hungry (it is midmorning and we did not have the luxury of breakfast). Three hours and three pounds of dust later, we reach the ranger station.

The lecture-orientation was more amusing than informative. We sit in a well furnished classroom with wooden chairs, long tables, and a strict lecturer. "Ma'am" is a lithe woman assigned to orient fervent hikers on the basics of climbing and of the sanctity of Pulag. Her eyes squint and her cheeks flush at the mere sight of a visitor soothed into a shallow slumber by the cool weather and her monotone.

Ma'am's words are precise, her English impeccable, and her bearing that of a proud tribeswoman protecting ancestral land.

She gives a brief historical background of the place, which, we learn, was declared a national park by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in 1987 and is protected by the National Integrated Protected Areas (Nipas) system.

Under Nipas, Pulag is a "controlled" natural attraction that local tribes protect and generate income from through tourism. No hiker is to climb the mountain without a local guide or an accredited ranger. We are to collect our trash and bring it back down to the lowland. Bathing in the water sources is no longer encouraged to prevent contamination. Liquor is strictly prohibited. Water can only be fetched from sources by the local guide.

> 'You are not to harm any animals,' says Ma'am. 'You are not to take off your shirts and shout. This is the dwelling place of many spirits'

"You are not to harm any animals," says Ma'am. "You are not to take off your shirts and shout around. This is the dwelling place of many spirits. And whatever you want to do with your partner or your [spouse], do it inside your tents."

We later find out that her last pointer is not necessary. Any human being cannot possibly be driven to carnal desires in the freezing cold.

Getting to Pulag entails taking either Ambangeg or Akiki (also known as the "killer trail"). Ambangeg is a relatively easier route with an established trail that even climbing neophytes will find manageable. Akiki is a steeper climb, but it rewards climbers with the pleasure of the Ellet River and the sight of hanging coffins, a burial practice almost as ancient as the mountain itself. Though half of our group have made numerous climbs on more popular mountains, the other half are inexperienced climbers. It is a convenient and a wise choice to take the Ambangeg trail. Either way, it takes you to the Grassland, sort of a "mezzanine," about an hour away from the peak.

From Base Camp 1, another ranger station where we pick up our porters, we start the hike into the mossy forest. My heart starts to pump more blood than necessary, out of sheer excitement and slight fear. The unease wears off as I get used to the hike and take in the view and the feel of the woods. It is almost mid-afternoon and the air gets thinner as we ascend. No slips or trips along the path so far, and I start to gain confidence even with a heavy backpack on. Amazing what an energy drink and hiking shoes with good traction can do.

But this is not the case with one of the other hikers, a burly, heavy-set man whose exhaustion is giving him double vision. A team leader sends a porter back to carry his pack for him, while our trusty "sweepers" (members positioned at the tail end to make sure no one is left behind) look after him.

We all make it to Camp 2, where we set up camp for the night. It has been a good two-hour hike.

When you dine in the freezing cold, forget any form of after-dinner socials or camaraderie-building. It is hell enough that you have to remove your gloves to get a tighter grip on your spoon. Even with the comfort of hot *sinigang* and a buffet of reheated home-cooked dishes, you are preoccupied with thoughts of getting done with dinner and retiring to your warm tent.

I come equipped for the cold. I wear a thick shirt, two thick wool sweaters, a thick winter jacket, two bonnets, and leather gloves. For all that, I am chilly at dusk. It is unbearable.

I wake up incessantly fumbling at the zipper of my sleeping bag, only to find that my fingers have numbed (I made the mistake of taking off my gloves before sleeping). My bonnet is wet from the mist. It is a restless night.

At four a.m. the next day, everyone is up and about preparing for the hike to the summit. I ask my female companions if they can endure the cold. I pray for the sun to come up, and make plans to hike at a later time with another batch. But there is no other batch: All of us are going to the summit before sunrise.

I drag myself out of the tent and speak to no one. I am fuming mad for having brought myself to this great discomfort.

But my rage is momentary, and as soon as we start the hike, my body acclimatizes. Thoughts of getting to the peak at sunrise excite me again. It will be another two-hour hike, so I pace myself between the fast hikers and the slow ones, keeping a considerable distance to mull over the meaning of life—and how fast my dead toenails will grow back.

It is breathtaking to see the sun peek through the back of the hills, and I walk faster, trying to get to the peak before the sun does.

Light starts to show and we have a clearer view of mid-calf grass spread across sprawling hills. It's like being in a different country. As we progress, I can see the trail up ahead, a thin line that shallowly breaks between hills, snaking around them. The other hikers up ahead in their colorful jackets look so minute in all this vastness, but I am undeterred. I walk faster. The summit can't be that far.

The last few minutes to the peak is almost a 90-degree incline. But it is all hills and valleys, much like a catwalk of the mountain, with hardly any ravines to fall into. It is getting really exciting. I can hear voices up close. This is it.

Somebody shakes my hand as I make my last step, and I vaguely hear a "Congratulations, you made it." Finally standing at an elevation of more than 9,000 feet triggers an emotional pendulum that swings from elation to melancholy and back. I have reached Pulag's summit. The feeling is discomforting and alien to me. Somebody gives me a hug and I begin to cry. I am at peace with myself. Nobody dares divorce my faith from me, and I come full circle with my weaknesses and strengths. It is pure euphoria.

The mountain is no longer condescending and intimidating. It welcomes me and breathes life into my tired legs. It cradles me gently and, like a doting mother, plants a soft kiss on my heart as I set off for the descent.

When I get home, my apartment feels so different. It's like swaying into something so familiar yet so foreign. Perhaps I brought home some of Pulag's mystique, to allow me to unravel life's greater mysteries. Or perhaps I just missed my bed so much.

But one thing is clear: Pulag has given me a moment that is almost spiritual and must be experienced again.

I will be back.

THEY made it.

TRAVELBRIEFS

Granted wish

THE WISH of an ailing child to fly to Rome and visit Pope John Paul II in the Vatican was recently made possible by KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, with the help of the Make a Wish Foundation and the East Avenue Medical Center where he is being treated.

The airline sponsored two round-trip tickets to Rome for Michael de la Cruz, who is afflicted with Hodgkins Lymphoma.

The ceremonial tickets were presented to Michael by Dindin Monserrate of KLM and Eduardo Santos of Make A Wish Foundation (Philippines) last April 11 during an Easter Hat theme party hosted by Giftgate and the Westin Philippine Plaza Hotel.

Make a Wish Foundation fulfills the wishes of children afflicted with life-threatening illnesses. It operates in several countries all over the world and has granted around 120,000 wishes since 1980. In the Philippines, the foundation has granted more than 208 wishes since it started in 1999.

Maytime tours

RESERVATIONS are being accepted for Causeway Tours' packages this month.

And the good news is that the "Buy 1-Take 1" promo applies to three tour packages for May 16-18:

- Palawan Nature Escapades, which covers such spots as the Underground River and the idyllic Honda Bay Islands, plus trips to the Crocodile Farm, Butterfly Garden, Iwahig Penal Colony, and Vietnamese Village.
- Cagayan Valley Pilgrimage, which offers a cultural-spiritual tour of centuries-old churches such as in Tumauini and San Pablo (Isabela) and in Tuguegarao and Iguig (Cagayan); an actual pilgrimage to the shrine of the Miraculous Lady of Piat; and a bonus trip to the Callao Caves.
- Cordillera Highland Wonders, which is highlighted by a spectacular view of the "8th Wonder of the World" at the Rice Terraces Viewpoint in Ifugao, and covers visits to an authentic Ifugao village (Banga-an), a museum on Igorot culture (Bontoc), and an ancestral burial cave (Sagada).

Set for May 23-25 is the Ilocos Culture Treasures tour, which features historical attractions including Vigan's Heritage Village and its Spanish churches, brick-and-tile houses, cobbled streets and calesas, and food specialties; the Marcos Museum in Batac; the great churches of Paoay and Sarrat; plus leisure breaks at the Patapat ridge and Pagudpud Ivory Beach and, on the return trip, a visit to the shrine of Our Lady of Manaoag in Pangasinan.

Call 853-8728, (0916) 396-3963 or (0919) 610-05804.

Sumakah Festival

SEVEN Suites Hotel-Observatory invites guests to stay for Antipolo's annual Sumakah Festival this month and celebrate the city's famous sites and products.

The recently renovated Antipolo Church houses the shrine of Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage, where owners of new cars can bring their vehicles for blessing. Take your pick from the *suman, mangga, kalamay, kasuy* and peanut preserves in stalls outside the church.

Within Antipolo's national park is the Hinulugang Taktak waterfall. The park now boasts a swimming pool, landscaped gardens and picnic areas.

The Mystical Cave showcases holy images, a cathedral-like vaulted area and, according to locals, therapeutic waters. Watch for the cave's strong breeze and the bell sounds produced when its walls are tapped.

The Pinto Art Gallery showcases paintings, holy images and functional art. A charming Ilocano-Mexican chapel and fountain are found in the garden, aside from a garden bedroom and native spa. The gallery also provides a grand view of the hillside.

Before you visit these areas, Seven Suites Hotel-Observatory proves a convenient stopover. Guests are provided travel kits with itineraries, maps and addresses of the best places to see in Antipolo.

The hotel also offers special treats for mothers.

Call 240-5093, 677-5401, or (0920) 727-5670.

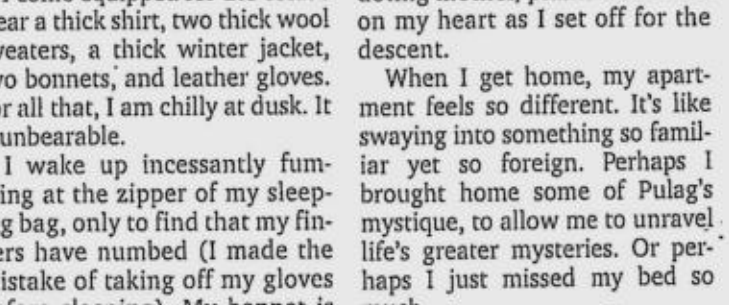
'Balik-Manila' packages

MANILA Pavilion is offering more affordable room rates under its new "Balik Manila" packages, valid until Nov. 30.

One can take a superior room for P2,500 net (single or double occupancy) and P3,000 net (triple occupancy). A family of two adults and two kids can take a junior suite with inclusions and Playroom pass at P4,000 net.

Packages include buffet breakfast at Café Coquilla, special souvenir gift, free use of pool and gym, Casino Filipino pass, and a 10-percent discount on food and beverage orders.

Call (63-2) 526-1212 ext. 2333 or 2343 or e-mail reservations@manilapavilion.com.ph.



TOP PRODUCERS AWARDED
Travel agents beam at a luncheon held by Qantas Airways Ltd. at Fraser Place to honor its top 10 producers for 2002. The awards were presented by country manager Honeybee Hubahib together with Leanne Blackley, principal migration officer of the Australian Embassy. In photo from left, seated: Lucille Chabeldin, Thomas Cook; Luna Hernandez, BTI Marsman; Blackley; Gerry de Guzman, Adventure Int'l.; and Alice San Juan, Rajah Travel. Standing from left: Bernadette Javier, Rajah; Lizette Rebanal and Jessica Pineda, Qantas; Tessie Aragon, UHI; Hubahib; Sylvia Sangco, Philscan Travel; Ian Simpson, Australian Embassy; Marilu Ngo, Sierra Tours; Emilio Garchitorena, Morning Star; Kaye Ong, Pan Pacific; Gem Feliciano, Qantas; Raymond Tee, Horizon Travel; and Francis Legaspi, Qantas.

Enchantment in the skies

MARICEL Soriano, Chito Roño and Boots Anson Roa

AIKO Melendez

FREDDIE Santos, Mon Faustino, Lani Mercado, Mario and Cynthia Mamon, and Tats Faustino

From page 11

Mon Faustino, N.R. Joaquin, Randy Santiago and Freddie Santos.

Enchanted Kingdom also held a storytelling session with Aiko Melendez, while EK actors mimed the story. The Prime Council band of Aliyah Parcs, Gail Blanco and Jed Madella performed pop tunes at the Bandstand.

The park will soon unveil the 4D Discovery Theater, Southeast Asia's first, at the Portabello. To add to its list of special sports attractions like Paintball, Enchanted Kingdom is opening a Turbo Raceway, a Go-Kart racing facility.

Admission is P500 for an EK Day Pass, P300 for the Wizard's Treat and P100 for the Carousel Special. Until June 1, EK will be open daily, 2-10 p.m. Monday to Friday and 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. On May 17 and 24, EK will be closed for a private function. Shuttle services to Enchanted Kingdom at P100 (one-way) per person are available at the Ayala Center terminal. Call 830-2111 to 16 or 843-6073 to 78 or visit www. enchantedkingdom.com.ph.

A FULL-HOUSE audience at the bandstand for celebrity storyteller Aiko Melendez

Being a mom is about keeping your balance

As a mother, there is no investment more valuable to you than devoting your best years to ensuring your family's well-being. With boundless love, patience, and understanding, you tend to the welfare of your husband and kids. The task is not easy and it's a wonder how you can adequately address all the different needs you must attend to, including those at work, at home, the community, not to mention your own as a person and individual.

Being a mother is one of the toughest jobs in the world, yet at the same time, it is the most rewarding and fulfilling. Motherhood requires perseverance, inner strength, compassion and wisdom. But perhaps more important, motherhood requires balance, in spiritual, mental, emotional, and physical terms, in order to be able to recognize and respond to all the factors that impact on your family's life and your own, for better or worse. Motherhood requires balance in judgment and decision-making, in allocating limited resources like time and money.

Your bond with your family is enduring, and your devotion merits respect. Therefore, it's only fitting that your family celebrates Mother's Day to honor you. You've earned this special day.

Today, your family rightfully recognizes you, especially for the way you keep your balance, as you devote your attention and energies to different and often competing demands.

Just like you, Nestlé PURE LIFE recognizes the importance of providing a balance for you and your family. As an international brand of bottled water from the world's largest food company, Nestlé PURE LIFE has a balance of important qualities that benefit your family: a pleasant and refreshing taste, purity, and wholesomeness. Unique to Nestlé PURE LIFE is a formulation of minerals that are needed to keep you and your family healthy. Produced locally from a carefully protected source by Nestlé Waters Philippines, Inc., Nestlé PURE LIFE has a precisely balanced formulation, the result of extensive research, which helps to ensure that your family obtains specific minerals that are needed for their well-being.

Made according to the strictest standards of safety and hygiene, Nestlé PURE LIFE offers not only pure and safe water, but also useful minerals that meet the needs of the entire family, making it a truly healthy, balanced drinking water.

As a mother, caring successfully for your family requires balance, the same kind that Nestlé PURE LIFE provides for your family's wellness.

What if you could mix your INC and DEC?

SUN CELLULAR
Plan 250

250 FREE CALL VALUE

FREEBIES

9 mins cell to cell — ₱45
7 mins cell to other cell — ₱42
4 mins cell to landline — ₱24
5 mins IDD — ₱107
3 mins NDD — ₱28.50

₱246.50 < ₱250.00 FREE CALL VALUE

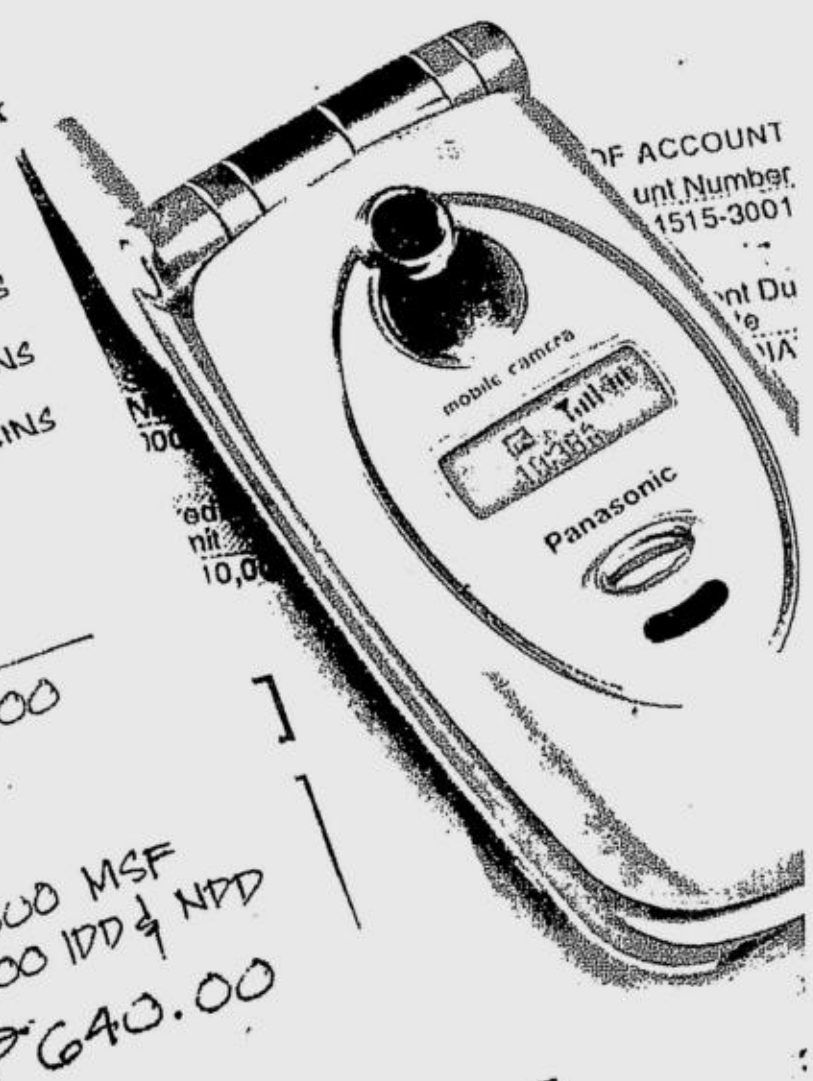
OTHER NETWORK
Plan 500

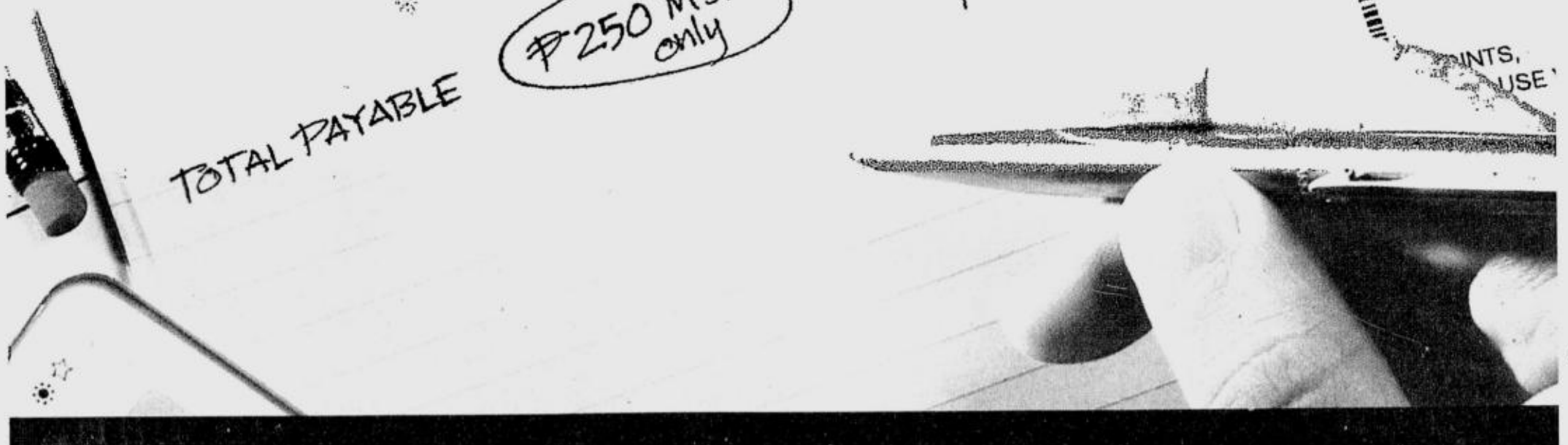
20 LOCAL MINS FREE

CHARGED TO FREE MINS — ₱107
CHARGED TO FREE MINS — ₱33
CHARGED TO FREE MINS — ₱140.00

₱500 MSF
+ 140.00 IDD & NDD
₱640.00

TOTAL PAYABLE ₱250 MSF only





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Finally, free minutes that go beyond local calls. Introducing, Sun Cellular's Free Call Value.

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- Cell to cell pertains to calls made within the network • Cell to other cell pertains to calls made to other networks • Plan 250 rates based on i-SPEAK Plan

SUN CELLULAR
CELLULAR
Everything Important is Under the Sun

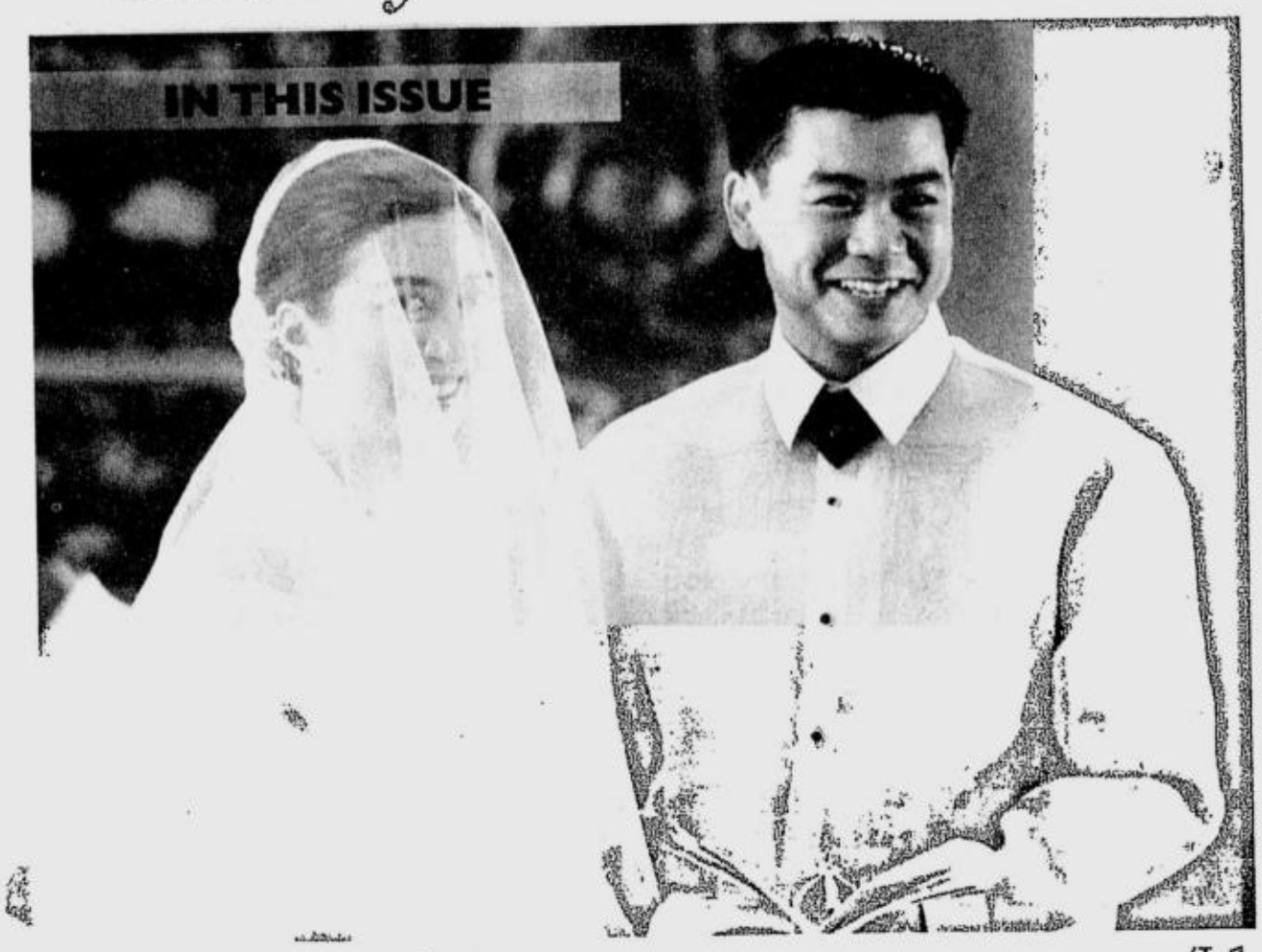
SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2003

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Sunday LIFESTYLE

Weddings Engagements

IN THIS ISSUE



Shower for Dato's bride-elect Kakai' /K1

Cham-Ty nuptials

/L1

UnchUan-De la Serna nuptials /J2

Abadilla-Bonilla nuptials /J2

Four debutantes /J4

Catch G. in her mall tours at all freeway Outlets:

May 11, 2003 - Sunday
Freeway SM Southmall - 4:00 pm
Freeway Festival Mall - 6:00 pm

May 17, 2003 - Saturday
Freeway Robinsons Novaliches - 4:00 pm
Freeway North EDSA - 7:00 pm

May 18, 2003 - Sunday
Freeway SM Bacoor - 4:00 pm
Freeway SM Sucat - 6:00 pm

May 23, 2003 - Friday
Freeway Abano Square (Baguio) - 10:00 am
Freeway SM Pampanga - 4:00 pm

May 24, 2003 - Saturday
Freeway Robinsons Metro East(pasig)-4:00 pm
Freeway Alimall(Cubao) - 6:00 pm

May 25, 2003 - Sunday
Freeway Robinsons Galleria - 4:00 pm
Freeway Robinsons Place(Ermita) - 6:00 pm

May 31, 2003 -Saturday
Freeway Glorietta - 4:00 pm
Freeway SM Bicutan - 6:00 pm

big hug!©

myGlobe | funtxt !!!

Give Mama a big surprise!

Send a word or a short phrase like "love you Mom" to 2961 and FunTXT will give you the most surprising picture message. You can choose from Peanuts, Garfield, MC Snow, Sugar Puff, Jungle Jimmy and even South Park.

Download FunTxt then forward it to Mom.
Key in character code <space> your message.
Send to 2961.
Ex: PN WE LOVE YOU MOM!

Characters to choose from and their corresponding codes:
Peanuts (PN), Garfield (GF), South Park (SP), Jungle Jimmy (JJ),
MC Snow (MC), Sugar Puff (SU)

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Globe

Ambassador inaugurates Belgian-funded projects in Cebu

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

THE AMBASSADOR of Belgium to the Philippines, **H.E. Christiaan Tanghe**, and Ms **Gul Tanghe** were recent visitors in Cebu. Belgium's honorary consul in Cebu and chair of the local consular corps, **Enrique Benedicto**, and his wife Ms **Helena Benedicto** hosted a reception for them at the Country Club attended by Belgian nationals, government officials and a cross-section of the community.

One of the highlights of the affair was the presentation by Mayor **Tommy Osmeña** of the symbolic key to Cebu City to Ambassador Tanghe. The ambassador also made a courtesy call on Governor **Pablo Garcia**. He went with the governor to the municipality of Barili, south of Cebu City, to inaugurate a school building in Balao and a water project in Gunting, both of which were donated by Belgium. The country also donated the foot bridge in Anapog, municipality of Pinamungahan, which both ambassador and governor visited next.

Since the 1950s and until recently, there was an American consulate in Cebu run by career diplomats of the United States. Many of the consulate's former officials return from time to time to visit Cebuano friends.

None have been more regular than **Dan** and **Margaret Sullivan**, who were assigned here during the early 1970s, Martial Law era.

Their last visit was in April. They were house guests of **Joseling Borromeo** and his sister **Marysol Borromeo Putong**, who served for many years as the American consulate's secretary. Brother and sister still live in their ancestral home on Rahmann street, a beautiful house with a graceful outdoor staircase that leads to an open porch that gives an impressive view of the terraced gardens. Joseling himself tends the blooming shrubs.

In the back garden, bougainvillea vines climb over a pergola. The vines are laden with white blooms at this time of year. Summer snow, Dan and Margaret called them.

Joseling and Marysol hosted a dinner party al fresco beneath the pergola for their American guests. Specialties of the Borromeo house were served along with a magnificent spread by **Derek Dytian's** Creative Cuisine.

Helping Joseling and Marysol were their nephew **Ed Gallego** and wife **Bernadette**, with their pretty daughter **Mirella**.

Next day, the Borromeo siblings took Dan and Margaret to their summer house by the beach in Alcoy, south of Cebu City. The many old friends who attended the dinner party did not say farewell to the Sullivans but used the Cebuano term "Balik-balik," a wish for their quick return that was almost an endearment. Maybe next time we'll ask Margaret about Pocahontas, from whom she is directly descended.

John Unchuan and **Carrie de la Serna** chose the St. Jude Chapel within Camp Lapu-Lapu of the Visayas Command headquarters for their wedding on a Saturday evening. She is the daughter of former Cebu Governor **Vicente de la Serna** and **Maria Dolores Bernard**; he is the son of **Agustina Escaño Unchuan** and the late **Eduardo Unchuan**.

Principal sponsors were **Manuel Agustines**, Dr. **Manuel de la Serna**, Secretary **Leandro Mendoza**, **Roberto Escaño**, and Mesdames **Marvi Sala**, **Nieves Escaño Garrido**, **Priscilla Garcia** and **Vicky Cincunnegui de Moraza**. **Marie de la Serna**, Carrie's twin sister, was maid of honor. **Tirso Teves** was best man.

Carrie's sis **Frances de la Serna Quisumbing** and **Ma. Celeste Maniquis** were matrons of honor. Others in the wedding entourage were bridesmaids **Maricar Ong** and **Jo Anne Arcangel**, groomsmen **Iker Aboitiz** and **Marcelino Ugarte**, flower girls **Katalin Ugarte** and **Ysabella Unchuan**, pages **Jose Ma. Quisumbing**, **Eduardo Manuel Unchuan** and **Thomas Martinez**, as rings, coins, and Bible bearers.

Attending John and Carrie during the rites were **Grant Go** and **Jennifer Ong**, candle sponsors; **Jovy** and **Maite Unchuan** (nee Moraza), veil sponsors; and **Richie Unchuan** and **Chinky Aznar**, cord sponsors. The reception that followed was held at the ballroom of the Country Club.

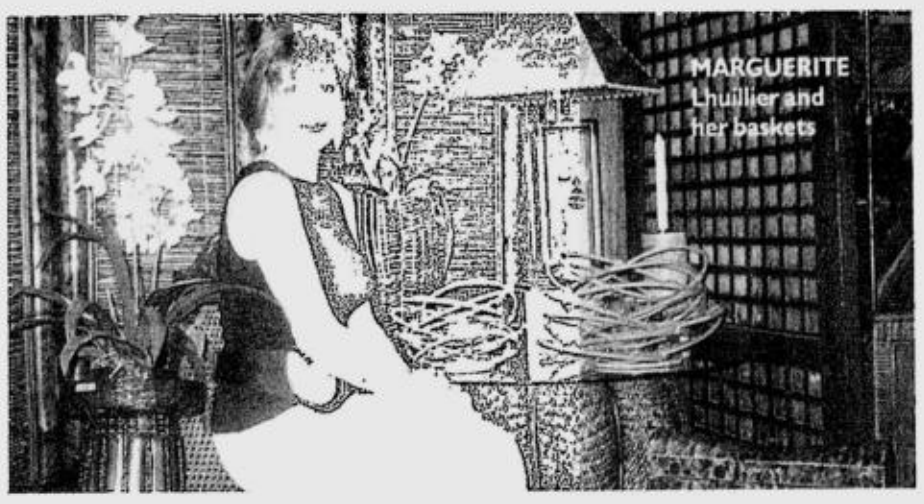
Rosebud Sala, grandaunt of the bridegroom, was congratulated for the beautiful decor in the church and the reception. She set up a buffet in each corner of the ballroom, which served varied specialties. If there were not enough chairs in the hall it was deliberate, explained Mrs. Sala. Guests found tables and chairs in the adjoining terrace for how else did one manage chopsticks for the sashimi dipped in soy sauce, if not seated? Or savor the Bacalao a la Vizcaina sent in by **Lulu Aboitiz**? Or enjoy the delicious banana heart pickled like artichokes?

The open space in the ballroom served its purpose well, though. There was a veritable fashion show featuring the Sala and Escaño ladies. And there was plenty of room when the spirited dancing began.

Among those tripping the light fantastic, none was more graceful than **Marguerite Lhuillier**, who was on one of her rare visits to Cebu. A born artist, she paints, sculpts, and designs baskets in the most beautiful shapes. A horde of artisans interpret her ideas and the results are shipped out to buyers all over the world.

Right after Easter, Margie left for the US to set in motion plans to open a showroom in Las Vegas, where she keeps an apartment. She also has a stately home in Atherton, near San Francisco. When she'll be back in Cebu is anybody's guess, but she will definitely be back on Aug. 2, the birthday of her mom, **Angelita Lhuillier**.

BELGIUM'S honorary consul in Cebu, Enrique Benedicto, Ambassador Christiaan Tanghe, Mme. Gul Tanghe, and Ms Helena Benedicto.



JOHN and Carrie Unchuan

DAN Sullivan, Bernadette Gallego, Margaret Sullivan and Ed Gallego

MARYSOL Borromeo Putong (standing) with Jo Magsaysay and former Cebu City Mayor Borres

Chat buddies 'remarry' for the 3rd time

TOOTS and Aby Abadilla

THIS is the third wedding for Toots Abadilla and Aby Bonilla. Two simple wedding rites were held a few years ago in Allentown, Pennsylvania. They decided to have a third wedding to share their blissful union with their family and friends in the Philippines. Toots and Aby "remarried" last April 5 at UP Los Baños chapel. Reception followed at Le Bea Resort in Laguna.

Toots and Aby used to be chat buddies via Internet. They met in New York and a year later, decided that they were meant for each other. They are now blessed with two little boys, Obi and Miguel.

NEWLYWEDS with their boys and some of their friends from Allentown who flew to Manila to attend the wedding

TAYTAY SUNDUAN. General Manager Edgardo Manda of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport will chair the Flores de Mayo of Taytay, Rizal today. Highlighting the event is the annual "Sunduan." Escorts, accompanied by a band, will fetch the *sagalas* from their houses then parade around town then end at the San Juan gym. *Sagalas* and escorts are Fatima Cortez, Edrick Rodriguez, Rafaella Burgos, Francis Sanvictores, Amparo Cortez, Paolo Cruz, Patricia Guzman and Dino Guzman. The *sagalas* will wear Eddie Baddeo creations in pink, blue, orange and yellow with mestiza sleeves and panuelo bodice with embossed appliqué of *gumamela* petals, leaves and flowers.

ROSA MISTICA, NANHAYA SANTACRUZAN. Mary Kamher Kampitan Herradura, daughter of Danilo and Liderla Herradura, will be the Rosa Mistica in the Nanhaya Santacruzan in Victoria, Laguna today (Sunday). She will wear a gown in monochromatic teal and periwinkle blue-silver designed and executed by couturier Eddie Baddeo. The gown features a cape collar corset top bodice with embossed *gumamela* petals appliqué, inserted with twigs of beads and borealis. The dropwaisted double bias skirt has tulip petals.

Our Lady of Guadalupe enthroned at Manila Cathedral's St. Jude Chapel

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

A DIGITALIZED laser true copy of the icon of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patroness of Mexico and also of the Philippines, is now enthroned at St. Jude Chapel of the Manila Cathedral. This means that one can now pray to the Virgin Mary under this title as if one was seeing the original icon in Mexico.

This was made possible by Cemex Philippines when Francisco Cue, then president, hand-carried two rolls of the icon from Mexico to Manila and Cebu.

The one for Manila was blessed in ceremonies on April 22 with the Filipino-Mexican community present. Bishop Teodoro Buhain officiated in the Mass, together with Msgr. Nestor Cerbo and other priests.

Cardinal Ricardo Vidal blessed the icon last May 7 with Bishop Isabelo Abarquez at Cebu Cathedral.

Juris Umali-Soliman, corporate communications director of Cemex Philippines and a devotee of the Virgin of Guadalupe, requested Cue if it would be possible for all this to happen. Cue made all this come true before he occupied that post of global head of procurement of Cemex-Mexico. The new president of Cemex Philippines is Jaime Ruiz de Haro.

Am I not here, your mother?

The Virgin appeared to Juan Diego between Dec. 9 and 11, 1531. She left a miraculous sign, her own image, imprinted on his tilma. The pregnant Mary was blocking the sun, and wearing a cape covered with stars.

And she told Juan Diego, a 57-year-old Indian: "Hear and let me penetrate your heart, my dear little son. Let nothing distress you, let nothing sadden you. Let not your face nor your heart nor anything else discourage you. Let nothing depress you. Let nothing alter your heart or your countenance. Am I not here, your mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Am I not the source of your joy, your fountain of life? Are you not in the folds of my mantle? In the crossing of my arms? Is there anything else you need? Do not fear any illness or vexation or pain!"

Our Lady of Guadalupe is the official patroness of the Philippines. In 1999 Pope John Paul II entrusted to her care all children, especially the unborn.

Virgen de los Remedios

The people of Pampanga will mark the feast day of their patroness, Virgen de los Remedios, on the third Saturday of May which falls on May 17 this year. The shrine of the Virgin is located in Barrio Baliti, San Fernando and the parish priest is Fr. Mar Miranda. Novena Masses are ongoing at 7 p.m.

Fiesta Masses are at 5:30 a.m., 6:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. At 6 p.m., Archbishop Aniceto will con-celebrate the Mass with other priests.

Philatelist Jorge Cuyugan has requested the postmaster general for the issuance of a commemorative stamp of the Virgen de los Remedios.

Sept. 8, 2003 will be the official date of the launching of the stamp to coincide with the commemoration of the first Marian Crusade in Pampanga in 1952. The Virgin was brought to all churches in Pampanga asking for her protection and help in making the province peaceful and prosperous.

Dance that unites

The Kilinkingan bird always flies over Callao Cave in Peñablanca, Cagayan. In a dance presentation at the recent Aliwan Festival, the dancers moved and jumped with the image of Our Lady of Piat at the helm. She is the one who inspires us to be united, according to Inday Lara, wife of Cagayan Gov. Edgar Lara. The province of Cagayan is peopled with different tribes: Itawes, Ilocanos and Ibanags.

St. Michael of Tangub

St. Michael the Archangel is the patron of Tangub, Misamis Occidental. Its former mayor Philip Tan and current mayor Jenny Tan are devotees of the saint. They told me how St. Michael always helps them in every endeavor for their constituents.

The 185 team members of the Dalit Festival who came over to Manila by boat prayed first to St. Michael before they set out. When they were here, they attended Masses at St. Michael Church in Solana, San Miguel district.

In the number presented for the Aliwan Festival, the dancers in Filipiniana costumes performed with the image of St. Michael which was carried by the dancers. They may not have won the competition which was sponsored by Manila Broadcasting Company, Department of Tourism (DOT) and the city of Manila, but they were happy just the same because they had St. Michael with them.

Flores de Mayo

The Congregacion del Santissimo Nobre del Niño Jesus, together with Unilever, DOT and the city of Manila, will hold a Flores de Mayo today from Fort Santiago to Roxas Blvd., then to the Wow Philippines festival area in Intramuros. Twenty-seven *sagalas*, dressed by Fashion Designers Association of the Philippines, will grace the occasion.

Our Lady of the Abandoned

The district of Sta. Ana, Manila will celebrate the feast of Our Lady of the Abandoned in Sta. Ana Church on May 12. Devotees can attend the novena and Masses. Fiesta day Masses are at 5 a.m., 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m. and 9 a.m., with Fr. Art Daquilenea, minister provincial of Franciscans in the Philippines, celebrating the Mass. Afternoon Masses are at 5 p.m., 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. Procession will be held today at 6 p.m.

St. Pancratius feast day

Many people attend the novena and fiesta Masses of St. Pancratius, patron of good health and good jobs. My friend, the late Leo Limpo, told me about him. Since then, I have been visiting his chapel at Paco Park during his feast day.

I know some people who have gotten good jobs through the intercession of St. Pancratius.

New bishop for Kabankalan

Most Rev. Patrick Buson is the second bishop of the Diocese of Kabankalan, according to Fr. Rembert Rivera, parish priest of Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in Sipalay, Negros Occidental. Bishop Buson was episcopally ordained last Feb. 19 at Punta Princesa, Cebu and canonically installed at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral in Kabankalan City.

Catanduanes parish needs help

Young parish priest Fr. Francis Conde wrote to ask for help in the building of a bigger church and a decent rectory for the people of Barrio Tabugoc in Pandan, Catanduanes.

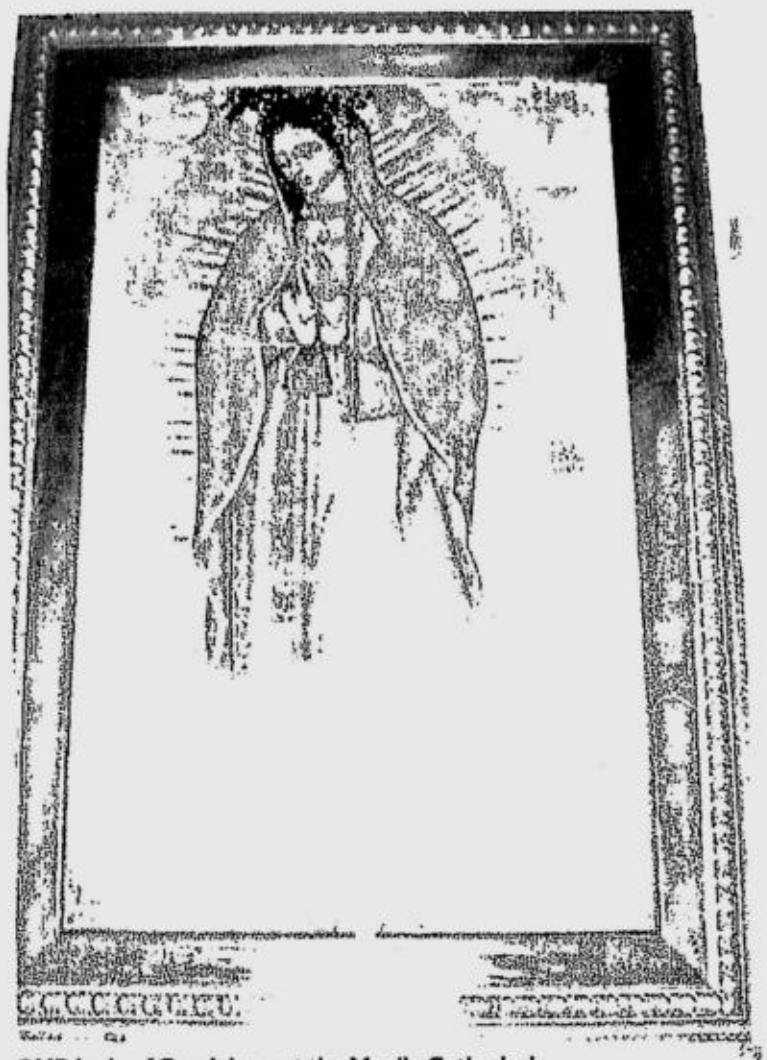
Created by Bishop Manolo de los Santos on Oct. 19, 2002, the parish of St. Francis Caracciolo is 18 km from the town proper and 116 km from Virac, the capital. It is an upland barangay with a high incidence of poverty and most covered areas 600 meters above sea level. To get there, one has to negotiate a very rough terrain and mountainous trek.

Fr. Francis is not giving up because the people are deeply religious. They live by fishing and farming with a few earning a living by some small business or teaching.

A sum of P2.8 million is needed to help this parish. Please write to Fr. Francis Conde c/o the Chancery Office, Diocese of Virac in Virac, Catanduanes or text him at 0919-3157491 or satellite phone 0981-990758.

Calolbon public library

If there's a will, there's a way. To help their people, the Calolbon (San Andres) Civic Association put up a public library in San Andres, Catanduanes from books donated by chapters in the United States. Retired public school teachers Loreta Sumalde and Aurora Piñera are taking care of the library which is a great help to students as far as Virac. Congratulations to Atty. Jose Gianan Samonte and his group. May your tribe increase.



OUR Lady of Guadalupe at the Manila Cathedral

PHOTO BY TED ARCILLA

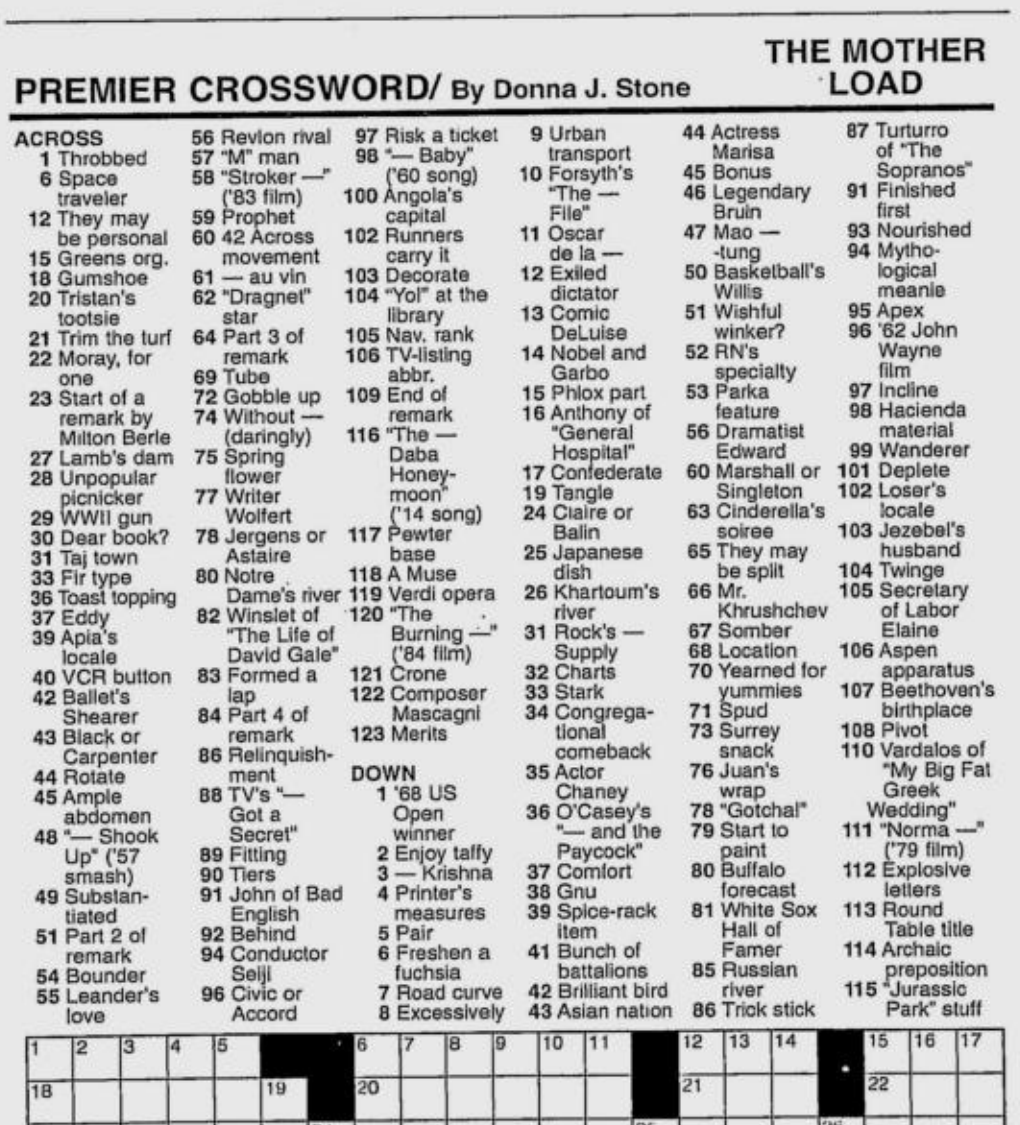
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

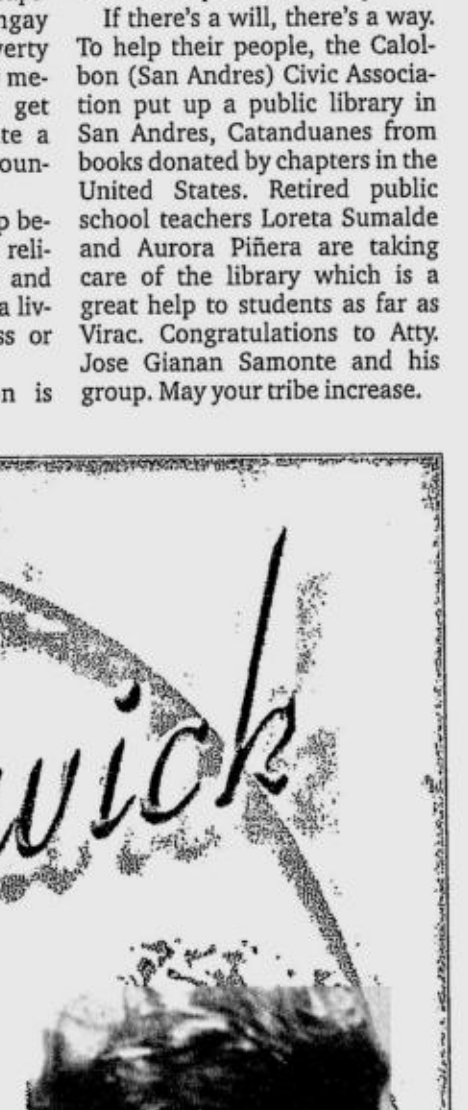
THE MOTHER LOAD

ACROSS
1 Throbbed
6 Space traveler
12 They may be personal
15 Greens org.
18 Gumshoe
20 Tristan's tootsie
21 Trim the turf
22 Moray, for one
23 Start of a remark by Milton Berle
27 Lamb's dam
28 Unpopular picnicker
29 WWII gun
30 Dear book?
31 Taj town
33 Fir type
36 Toast topping
37 Eddy
39 Apia's locale
40 VCR button
42 Ballet's Shearer
43 Black or Carpenter
44 Rotate
45 Ample abdomen
48 "— Shook Up" ('57 smash)
49 Substantiated
51 Part 2 of remark
54 Bounder
55 Leander's love
56 Revlon rival
57 "M" man
58 "Stroker —" ('83 film)
59 Prophet
60 42 Across movement
61 — au vin
62 "Dragnet" star
64 Part 3 of remark
69 Tube
72 Gobble up
74 Without — (daringly)
75 Spring flower
77 Writer Wolfert
78 Jergens or Astaire
80 Notre Dame's river
82 Winslet of "The Life of David Gale"
83 Formed a lap
84 Part 4 of remark
86 Relinquishment
88 TV's "— Got a Secret"
89 Fitting
90 Tiers
91 John of Bad English
92 Behind
94 Conductor Seiji
96 Civic or Accord
97 Risk a ticket
98 "— Baby" ('60 song)
100 Angola's capital
102 Runners carry it
103 Decorate
104 "Yo!" at the library
105 Nav. rank
106 TV-listing abbr.
109 End of remark
116 "The — Daba Honeymoon" ('14 song)
117 Pewter base
118 A Muse
119 Verdi opera
120 "The Burning —" ('84 film)
121 Crone
122 Composer Mascagni
123 Merits

DOWN
1 '68 US Open winner
2 Enjoy taffy
3 — Krishna
4 Printer's measures
5 Pair
6 Freshen a fuchsia
7 Road curve
8 Excessively
9 Urban transport
10 Forsyth's "The — File"
11 Oscar de la —
12 Exiled dictator
13 Comic DeLuise
14 Nobel and Garbo
15 Phlox part
16 Anthony of "General Hospital"
17 Confederate
19 Tangle
24 Claire or Balin
25 Japanese dish
26 Khartoum's river
31 Rock's — Supply
32 Charts
33 Stark
34 Congregational comeback
35 Actor Chaney
36 O'Casey's "— and the Paycock"
37 Comfort
38 Gnu
39 Spice-rack item
41 Bunch of battalions
42 Brilliant bird
43 Asian nation
44 Actress Marisa
45 Bonus
46 Legendary Bruin
47 Mao — -tung
50 Basketball's Willis
51 Wishful winker?
52 RN's specialty
53 Parka feature
56 Dramatist Edward
60 Marshall or Singleton
63 Cinderella's soiree
65 They may be split
66 Mr. Khrushchev
67 Somber
68 Location
70 Yearned for yummies
71 Spud
73 Surrey snack
76 Juan's wrap
78 "Gotcha!"
79 Start to paint
80 Buffalo forecast
81 White Sox Hall of Famer
85 Russian river
86 Trick stick
87 Turturro of "The Sopranos"
91 Finished first
93 Nourished
94 Mythological meanie
95 Apex
96 '62 John Wayne film
97 Incline
98 Hacienda material
99 Wanderer
101 Deplete
102 Loser's locale
103 Jezebel's husband
104 Twinge
105 Secretary of Labor Elaine
106 Aspen apparatus
107 Beethoven's birthplace
108 Pivot
110 Vardalos of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding"
111 "Norma —" ('79 film)
112 Explosive letters
113 Round Table title
114 Archaic preposition
115 "Jurassic Park" stuff



ANSWER ON PAGE H3

Dionne Warwick
LIVE @

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ARELLA DEBUT

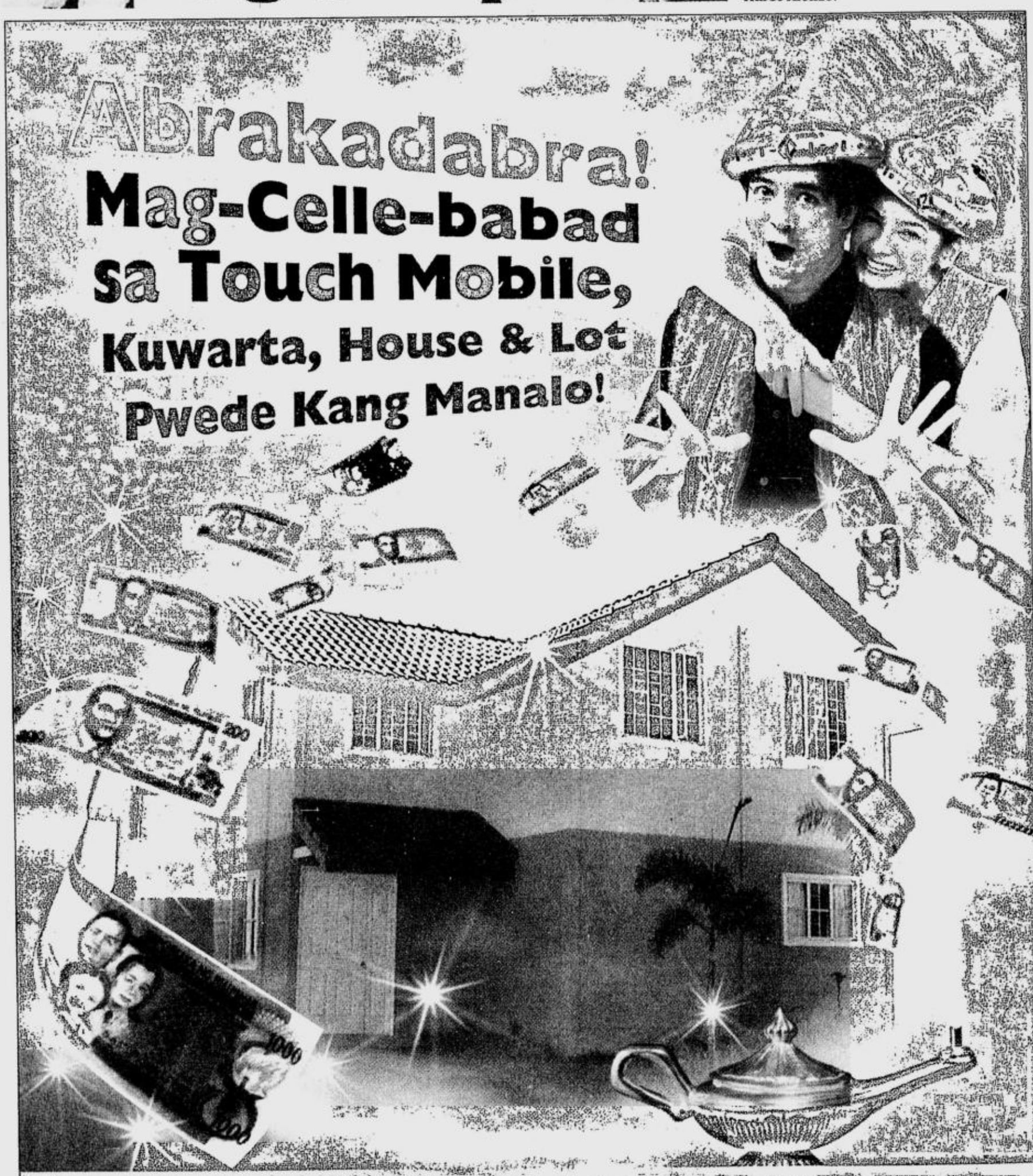
Jacqueline Eireen Requiron Arella, a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy student of the University of Santo Tomas, celebrated her 18th birt hday at the Grand Ballroom, Aberdeen Court, Makati City last April 12. She is the daughter of **Jesusito** and **Rosario Arella** of Lopez, Quezon. The debutante wore a gown created by **Edward Teng.**

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

HAN DEBUT

The very charming **Hanina "Nikki" Han**, daughter of **Salter** and **Ana Marie Han**, recently celebrated her 18th birthday with an elegant dinner dance party at the Grand Ballroom of the Dusit Hotel Nikko in Makati City. Nikki is an Export Management student of De La Salle College of St. Benilde. Her gown was designed by Camel awardee **Aureo Alonzo.**



ASPRER DEBUT

Joan Lorraine D. Asprer, eldest daughter of engineer **Reynaldo Asprer** and **Annabelle E. Dairo**, will celebrate her 18th Birthday at the Rigodon Ballroom of The Peninsula Manila, Makati, May 16.

Joan, a junior Business Administration student at the De La Salle-CSB, will be wearing a lilac princess-cut iridescent gown designed by **Jessie D. Sevilla.** The cotillion de honor will be choreographed by **Arni Cruz.**

ROBLES DEBUT

Marian "Me-Ann" A. Robles, youngest daughter of **Pet** and **Gideon Robles**, celebrates her 18th birthday this month with a coming-out party in Ayala Alabang Village, Muntinlupa. She is a sophomore Interior Design student at the University of Santo Tomas.

Garden wedding fair

THE CAROUSEL Court, 2/F Festival Supermall Filinvest Alabang, is the venue of Garden Wedding Fair on May 20-31. The event brings together essential suppliers for weddings and suppliers and wholesalers of flowers and other garden materials from Davao, Baguio, Cavite, Laguna and Iloilo.

The added attraction of the event is the bridal gown display of two designers associations: The Fashion Achievers Design Club headed by Tristan Yap and Design Society of the Philippines headed by Jonathan Pagaduan.

The event is organized by Philtrade Exhibits. Call 820-7879/1570.

BRIDAL GOWN collection of Jonathan Pagaduan of Design Society of the Philippines.

Dato's bride-elect gets 'showered'

A BED-AND-BATH shower was hosted by Gina de Venecia on May 2 at her home in Makati in honor of Kakai Manotok, bride-elect of Dato Macapagal Arroyo.

DATO'S/ K2

THE HONOREE, Kakai Manotok, with future mom-in-law President Macapagal-Arroyo and hostess Gina de Venecia

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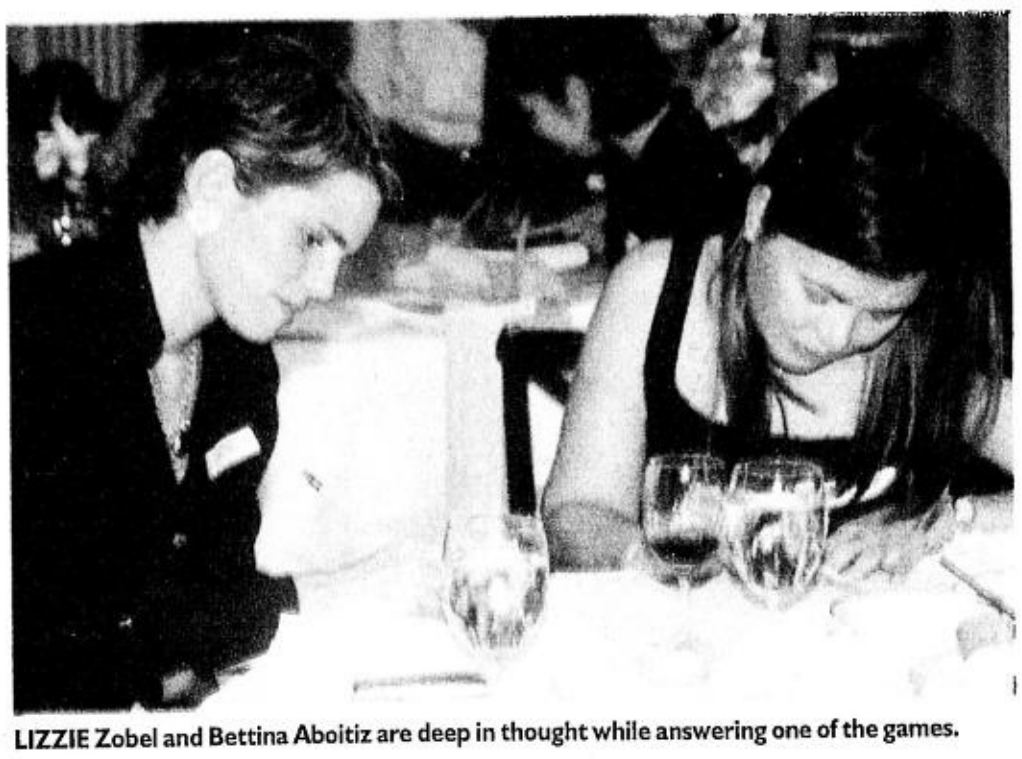


LIZZIE Zobel and Bettina Aboitiz are deep in thought while answering one of the games.

KAKAI with the winner of the Name Game and Wedding Scramble: Nature Manotok, Cricket Manotok and Tracy Garcia

Dato's bride-elect gets 'showered'

KAKAI, with Gina de Venecia, shows off her registration book.

From page K1

De Venecia, wife of House Speaker José de Venecia and president of the Congressional Spouses Foundation, is one of the principal sponsors in the wedding on May 16 at the Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park, Makati. Reception will be at Malacañang Palace.

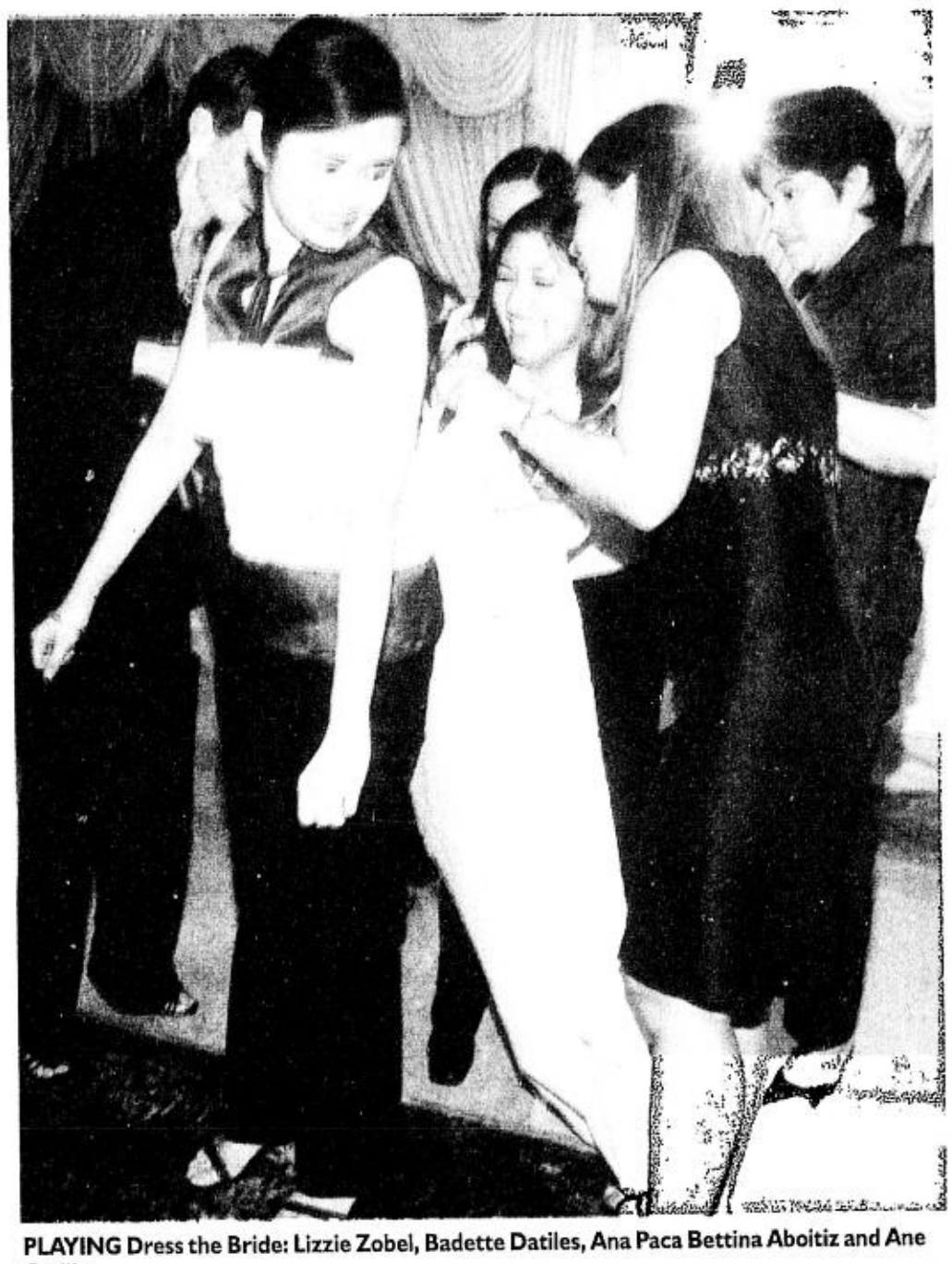
The De Venecia residence was decorated with balloons and colorful buntings. Guests, mostly Kakai's friends, participated in various fun games, including the hilarious Dress-The-Bride contest.

Cibo, the caterer, served Linguine Allo Scoglio, Pan-roasted Lapu-lapu Fillets with Capiz Fish Roe and Baked Chicken Breast with Walnut Crust, and, for desserts, mini crème brûlée, *buko* salad and mascarpone-filled profiteroles.

The gifts to the bride ranged from the practical (towels, soaps) to the provocative (sexy undergarments).

The bride-elect is the daughter of Rufino and Cynthia Manotok while the benedict is the son of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and First Gentleman Mike Arroyo.

Mothers of the affianced couple attended the shower.



PLAYING Dress the Bride: Lizzie Zobel, Badette Datiles, Ana Paca Bettina Aboitiz and Ane Ortilla

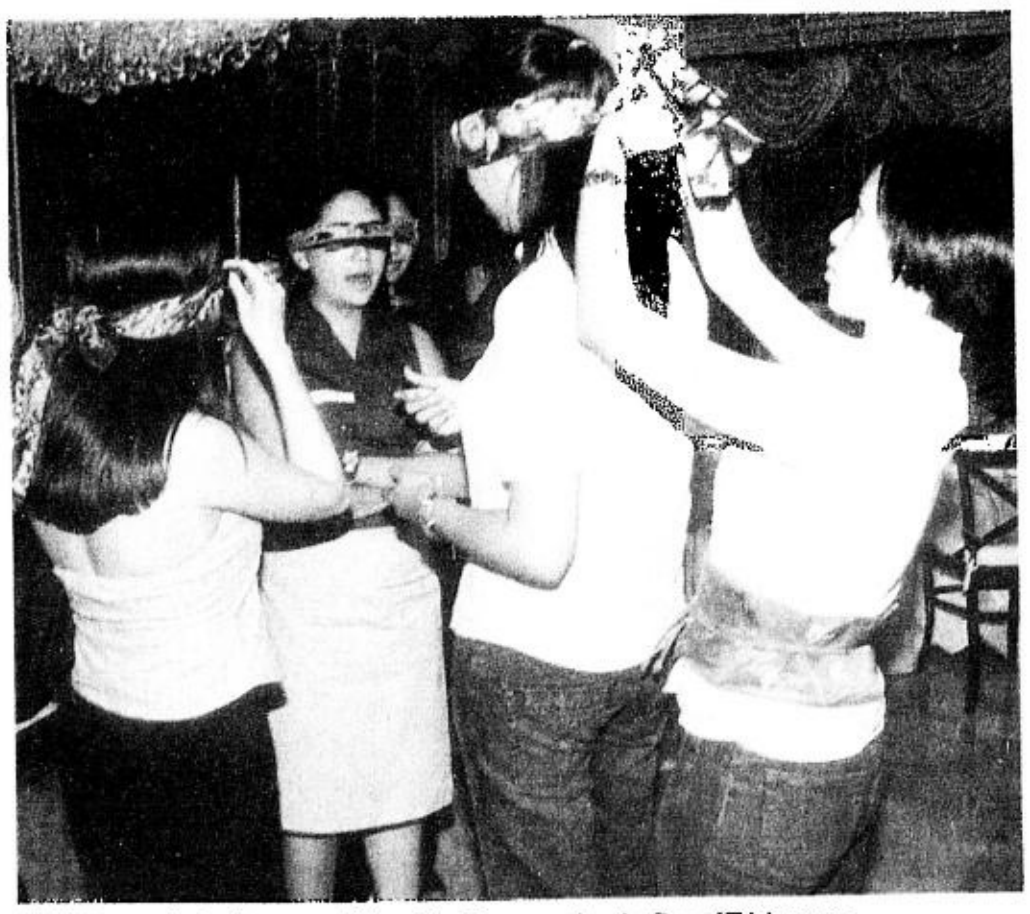
ANA Paca, Mish Hermogenes and Jem Maldia

ERLIN de Leon

CYNTHIA Manotok, Kakai's mother

DRESS-UP TIME. The "brides" modeling their creations for the Dress the Bride Game: Bea Muñoz , Muffet Datiles and Nikki Reyes

EMCEES and Kakai's friends Gina Salumbides and Trissa Lopez de la Cruz



NIKKI Reyes, Luisa Gomez and Tina Silva Navarro play the Bag of Tricks game.

WITH GEL Colet, Luisa Gomez, Joanna Francisco, Badette Amor and Tina Silva-Navarro

WITH ANE Ortilla, Lizzie Zobel, Badette Datiles, Ana Paca, Mish Hermogenes, Jem Maldia and Bettina Aboitiz

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

ESGUERRA-LONTOK

Benmar B. Esguerra, son of **Napthali** and **Estela Esguerra**, will wed **Vivian S. Lontok**, daughter of **Francisco** and **Editha Lontok**, on May 14 at the Malate Catholic Church. Reception will follow at The Executive Plaza Hotel.

The bride will wear an off shoulder princess-cut gown with ballroom skirt and detachable train by **Rollie H. Graza** of Balay Pagdaitan. Bridal accessories were by **Mikhael**.

DICHOSO-ALVARAN

Patricio Dichoso and **Magdalena Alvaran** will tie the knot on May 17 in Santiago, Isabela. The bride will wear a princess-cut gown with an embroidered veil by **Malou Castillejos** of C & C Creative Concepts.

ONG-YU

Michael Angelo Ong, son of **William** and **Luisa Ong**, and **Shirly Yu**, daughter of **Jose** and **Angelita Yu**, will exchange "I dos" on June 1 at Santuario de San Jose Parish. Reception will follow at the Peking Garden, Makati.

The bride will wear a white duchess satin gown accented by fully beaded bodice in Swarovski crystals and Austrian beads designed by **Jon Gaskell Fernando**.

CARLOS- CAROLA

Tristan Arvin M. Carlos, son of **Antonio** and **Erlinda Carlos**, and **Pia Carola**, daughter of **Domingo** and **Presentacion Carola**, recently tied the knot at San Agustin Church. Reception was held in Barangay Butong 1, Cabuyao, Laguna.

ANTONIO-DIAMANTE

Renette Grace Diamante, daughter of **Rene Diamante** and **Grace Hinlo**, exchanged marriage vows with 1Lt. **Alfredo G. Antonio, Jr.**, son of the late **Alfredo Antonio** and **Josefina Guillen**, in military rites on May 10 at St. Clement's Church, Iloilo City. Reception followed at Hotel Del Rio.

The bride wore a fully embroidered princess-cut gown with cut beads, pearl and Swarovski crystals by **Eric B. de los Santos**. The entourage's gowns were blue.

AUSA-BONGOLAN

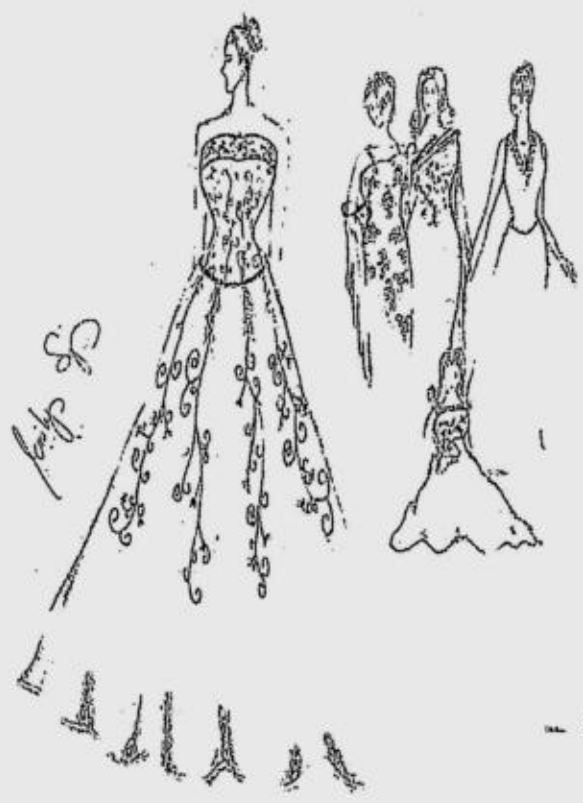
Reden S. Ausa, son of **Dr. Nielo** and **Maricar Ausa**, will marry **Pearl Bongolan**, daughter of **Ernesto** and **Adelina Bongolan**, on May 18 at the Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tuding, Itogan Benguet. Reception will be at the Main Ballroom of Baguio Country Club.

CIPRIANO-MAGNABIJON

Engineer **Genesis P. Cipriano**, son of **Mr. and Ms Alfredo D. Cipriano**, married **Cindy G. Magnabijon**, daughter of engineer **Benjamin S. Magnabijon** on Dec. 23, 2002 at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Kalibo, Aklan. Cindy's gown was designed by **Edwin L. Autencio**. The event was organized by **Rommel J. Constantino**.

AGUAVIVA-BANDONG

Arnold B. Aguaviva, son of **Celso** and **Arcita Aguaviva**, will wed **Marife F. Bandong**, daughter of **Efren** and **Merlinda Bandong**, on May 18 at the Villa Candida Orchidarium and Resort, San Jose City, Nueva Ecija. The bride will wear a gown by Rollie H. Graza of Balay Pagdaitan.



MARTINEZ-CU

Wilson Martinez, son of **Susana Ong Martinez**, will tie the knot with **Michelle Cu**, daughter of **Tian Gay** and **Elizabeth Cu**, today at the Manila Cathedral. Reception will follow at the grand ballroom of the Century Park Hotel.

The bride will wear a white bustier Swarovski-studded gown by **Susie Bonaobra**.

ROXAS-MINAS

Jonas M. Roxas, son of **Juanito** and **Lorna Roxas**, and **Ma. Cecilia W. Minas**, daughter of **Eduardo** and **Veronica Minas**, will tie the knot on May 19 at the Malate Church. Reception will follow at Coconut Palace.

The bride will wear a princess-cut gown by **Emily Sy** of Esy Creation in white frosted organza over silk shantung.

MAN-CHING

Jonathan Man, son of **Robert** and **Mary Man**, will tie the knot with **Lanie Ching**, daughter of **Kevin** and **Thelma Ching**, on May 18.

VILLANUEVA-DELA MERCED

Apolinar B. Villanueva Jr., son of **Apolinar Sr.** and **Carmen Villanueva**, and **Desiree J. dela Merced**, daughter of lawyer **Cecilio** and **Teresita dela Merced**, exchanged matrimonial vows last March 22 at Coconut Palace, Cultural Center Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Manila. The Christian wedding was officiated by Rev. **Clemente E. Guillermo**. Reception followed at the poolside.

The bride and entourage wore creations by **Edward Teng**. The bride wore a strapless duchess satin gown with hand-made beadwork using blue crystal glass cut beads and swarovski crystals. Makeup was done by **Jackie Rivera**.

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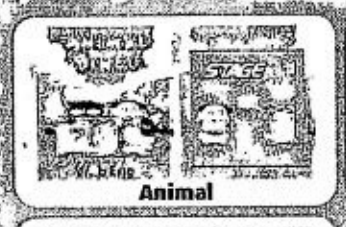
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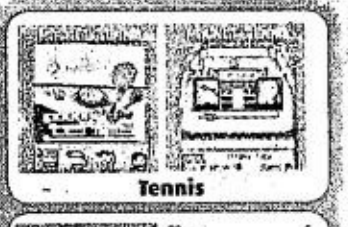
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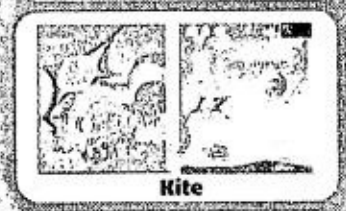
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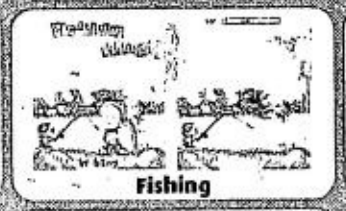
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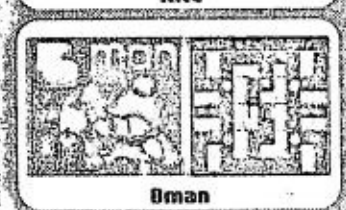
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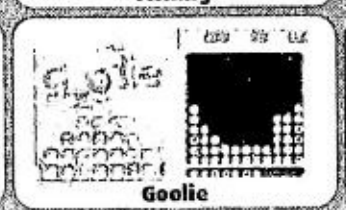
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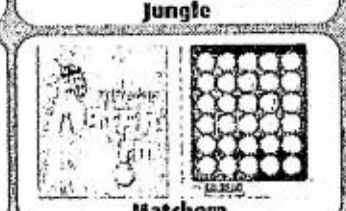
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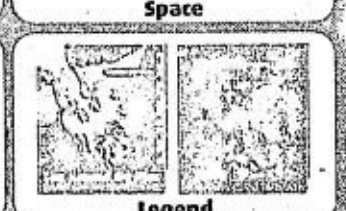
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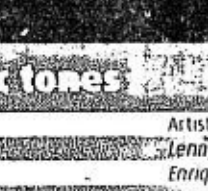
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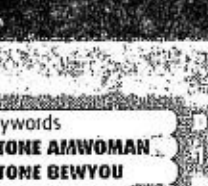
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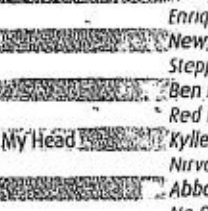
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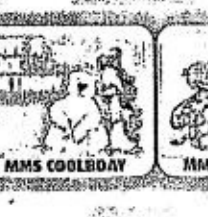
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NEWLYWEDS Terrence and Peggy

Sunday LIFESTYL Weddings Engagements

CHAM-TY NUPTIALS

Taipan's daughter is just what the doctor ordered

Text by Donnie C. Ramirez
Contributor
Photos by Mike Alquinto and Lorna Llanes

WHEN Terrence Cham came to the Philippines from his native New Jersey, United States, he only wanted to complete his medical studies at the University of Santo Tomas. But as fate would have it, he didn't only get his degree (he passed the board examinations recently), he also got himself a bride.

Terrence, son of Dr. William Cham, a cancer specialist, and Dr. Anita Cham, a dermatologist, met Margaret "Peggy" Ty, daughter of Metrobank chair Dr. George S.K. Ty and the former Lourdes Lara, at a dinner of mutual friends in January 2002. Peggy's best friend Josie Lagman remembers that it was Terrence's cousin, Edison Cham, who introduced the couple to each other.

"It was actually a set-up date," Josie says. "There was instant attraction between Terrence and Peggy. There were already sparks at

TAIPAN'S/ L2

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THE COUPLE with the groom's parents Drs. Anita and William Cham

THE NEWLYWEDS with their entourage

JOSIE Lagman, the bride's best friend, Alice Cuazon and Maribeth Kilayko

FLOWER girls Michelle Ty, Kristin Ann Gil and Sabrina Audrey Co

DR. GEORGE Ty walks her daughter down the aisle

Taipan's daug what the doct

From page L1

their first meeting!"

The two started going out on group dates, usually out-of-town trips to Calatagan and Corregidor. Both simple, low-key and unassuming despite distinguished pedigrees, they bonded easily as they discovered they had many things in common. They started dating seriously in May last year and, a year later, tied the knot.

The wedding on May 3 at the Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park, Makati, was a beautiful event. Solemn and elegant, it reflected the couple's own simplicity. Fr. Antonio Rosales, OFM, was the main celebrant, with Fr. Armand Tangi, SSP; Fr. Larry Garces, OAR; Fr. Jason Omecillo, OAR; and Fr. Joey Tuazon as cocelebrants.

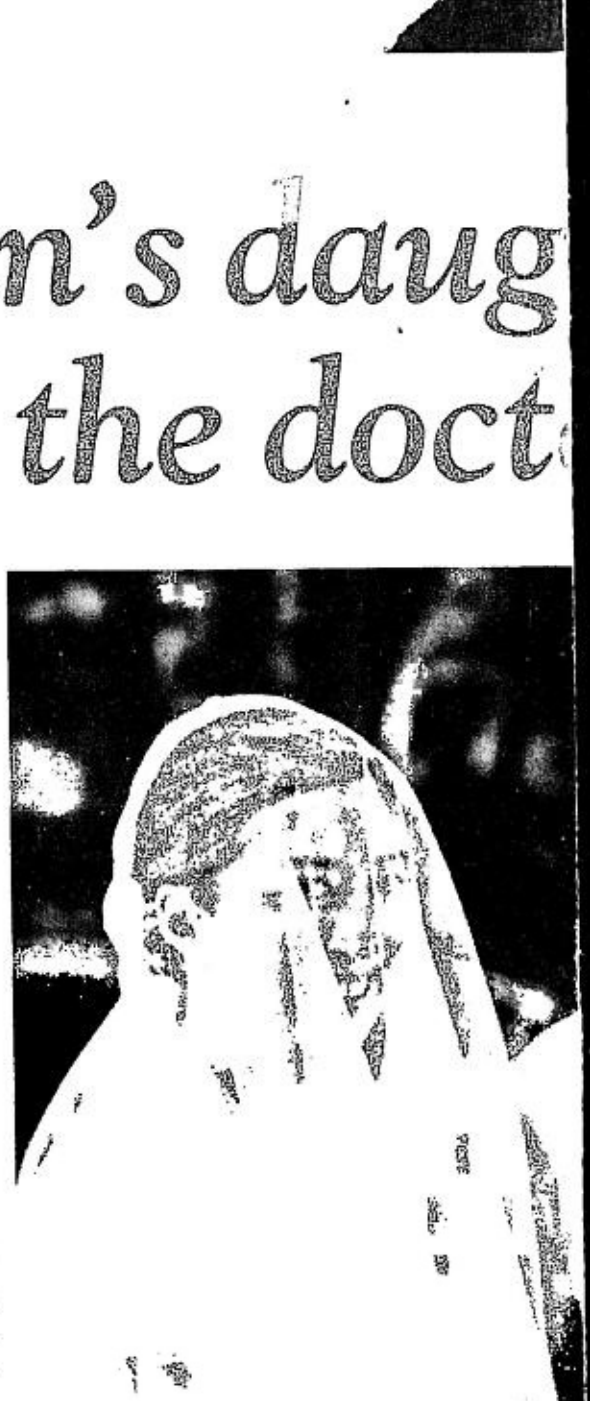
Peggy wore an exquisite off-white Maria Clara-inspired gown designed by Joe Salazar. Complementing the Filipiniana motif was the intricate formal barong Tagalog of the groom made by Paul Cabral.

Robert Blancaflor did the floral décor at the church and the tented reception at Le Pavillon at the Metropolitan Park in the Manila Bay reclamation area. The eye-catching apple-walnut fondant cake created by Penk Ching of Pastry Bin was in the form of stacked-up pillows.

Rita Neri, at her usual efficient best, was wedding coordinator.

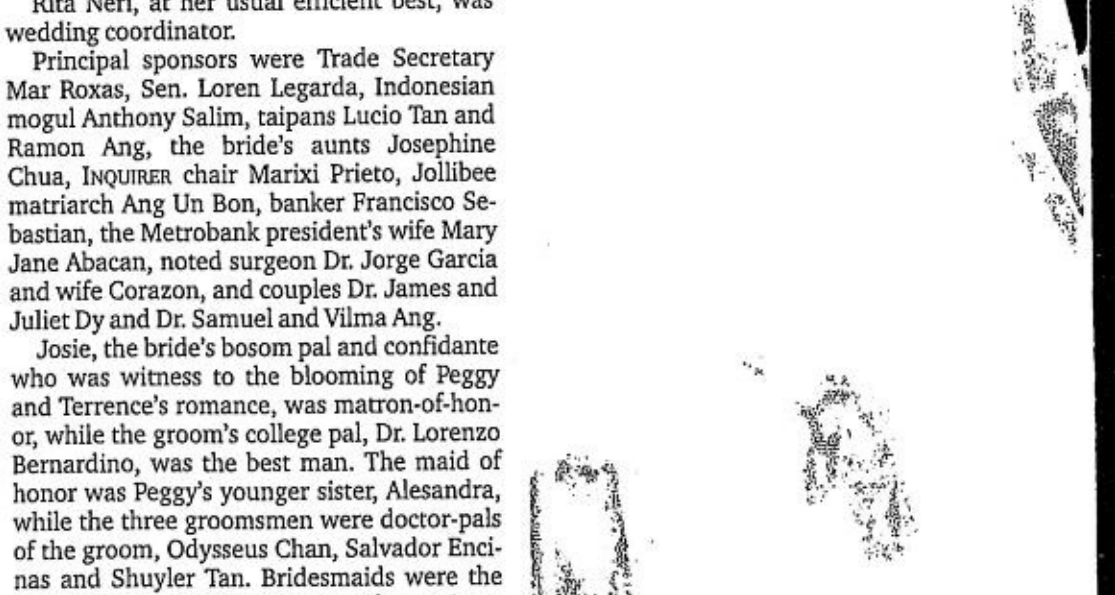
Principal sponsors were Trade Secretary Mar Roxas, Sen. Loren Legarda, Indonesian mogul Anthony Salim, taipans Lucio Tan and Ramon Ang, the bride's aunts Josephine Chua, INQUIRER chair Marixi Prieto, Jollibee matriarch Ang Un Bon, banker Francisco Sebastian, the Metrobank president's wife Mary Jane Abacan, noted surgeon Dr. Jorge Garcia and wife Corazon, and couples Dr. James and Juliet Dy and Dr. Samuel and Vilma Ang.

Josie, the bride's bosom pal and confidante who was witness to the blooming of Peggy and Terrence's romance, was matron-of-honor, while the groom's college pal, Dr. Lorenzo Bernardino, was the best man. The maid of honor was Peggy's younger sister, Alesandra, while the three groomsmen were doctor-pals of the groom, Odysseus Chan, Salvador Encinas and Shuyler Tan. Bridesmaids were the groom's sister Aileen Renee Cham, Anne Marie Patricio and the matron of honor's daughter, Josephina Gwyneth Lagman.



THE COUPLE with the wedding's officiating priests

THE NEWLYWEDS with their groomsmen and bridesmaids



THE COUPLE'S moms Lourdes Ty and Dr. Anita Cham with principal sponsors Loren Legarda, Joseph

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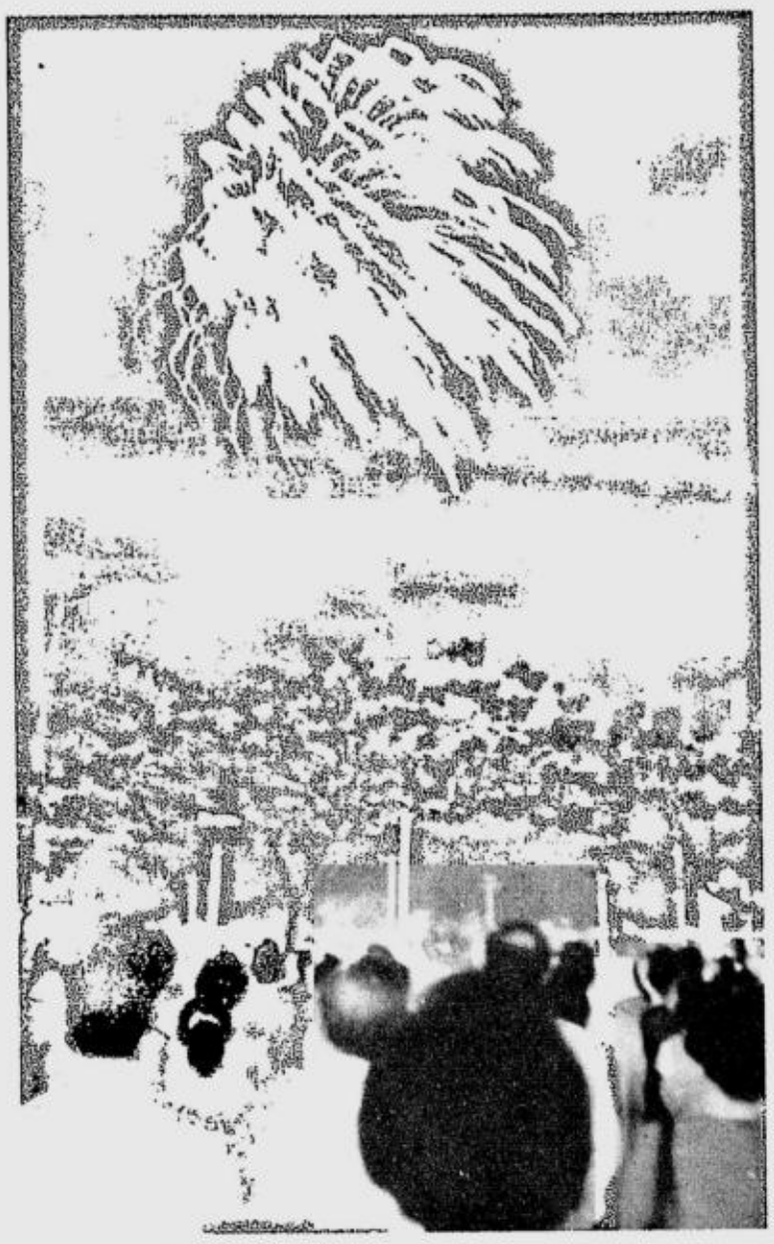
Sparks flew from the first meeting of Terrence Cham and Peggy Ty



or ordered

Completing the entourage were Kristine Diane Chan and Nicole Sarah Yap, junior bridesmaids; Stephen Chua and Dr. Michelle Mercado, candle; Dr. Ritchie Cheong and television personality Vicky Morales, veil; and Dr. Michael Chua and Maribeth Kilayko, cord.

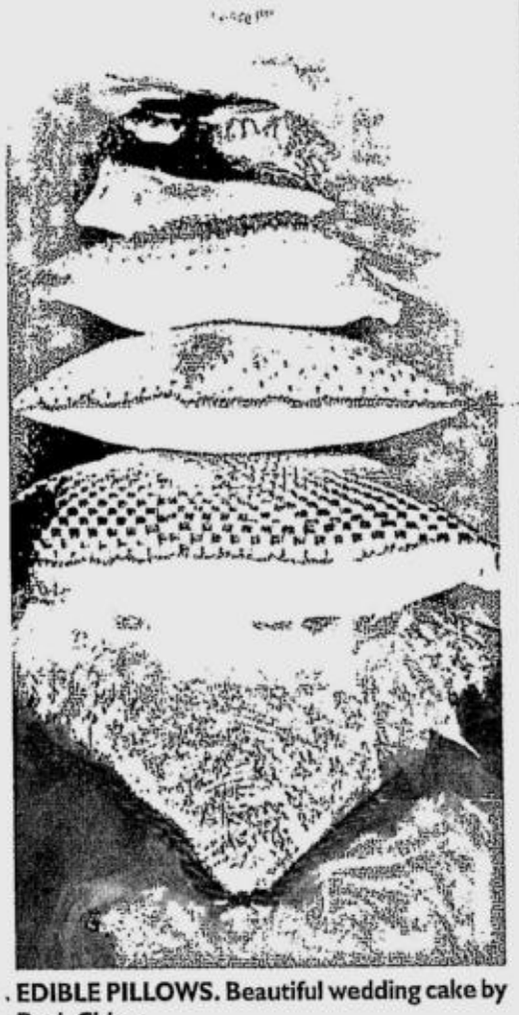
The little attendants were Jason Freidlander, ring bearer; Andrei Connor Tan Ty, coin; Juan Miguel Manuel, Bible; Victor Manuel Mañalac, rosary; Alfonso Cuezon, crucifix; Eric Miguel Mañalac and Jason Aldrich Yap, page boys; and Alisa Michelle Ty, Kristyn Ann Gil and Sabrina Audrey Co, flower girls.

The dinner reception, catered by Le Soufflé, was preceded by a magnificent fireworks display. The menu consisted of scallop, prawns and mushroom salad; carrot and pumpkin soup; grilled Chilean sea bass with leek fondue; frozen grapes; black Angus prime ribs; and iced orange and white chocolate terrine. Music was provided by the 20-man String Minstrels of Ed and Tina Pasamba and the Hyperbeat Band.

Bridesmaid Josephine Gwyneth Lagman did a ballet number and Leo Ferreria, president of Toyota Manila Bay, rendered a couple of songs accompanied by Eddie Katindig.

After a week-long honeymoon in Amanpulo and Boracay, the couple is starting their life together in the Philippines. Terrence will begin his medical practice while Peggy, a BS Humanities graduate from De La Salle University, will resume her work at PSBank, an affiliate of her family's Metrobank Group of Companies.

To Terrence and Peggy, may your life together be rewarded with eternal happiness. Cheers!

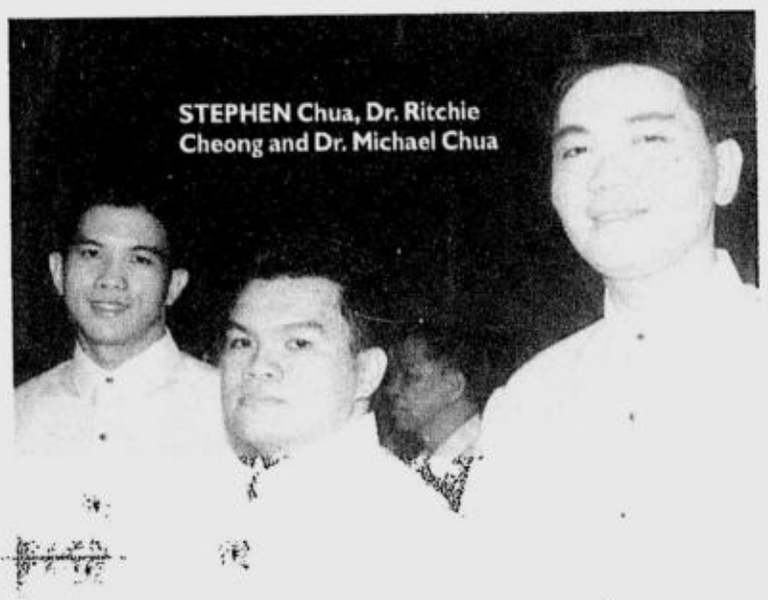


EDIBLE PILLOWS. Beautiful wedding cake by Penk Ching

ERIC Mañalac, Alfonso Cuazon and Victor Mañalac

KRISTINE Yap, Catharine Yap and Emily Yao Siy

LINDA Chan, Jean Goulbourn and Grace Mann



VICKY and Robert Estacio

MENANDRO Jimenez and Corazon Garcia

VICKY Morales with the bride's mom, Lourdes Ty

BEST man Dr. Lorenzo Bernardino with the groom

JOE Salazar and Paul Cabral

ALFREDO Barreto and Danny Dolor

ine Chua, Marixi Prieto, Grace Tancaktiong and Mary Jane Abacan

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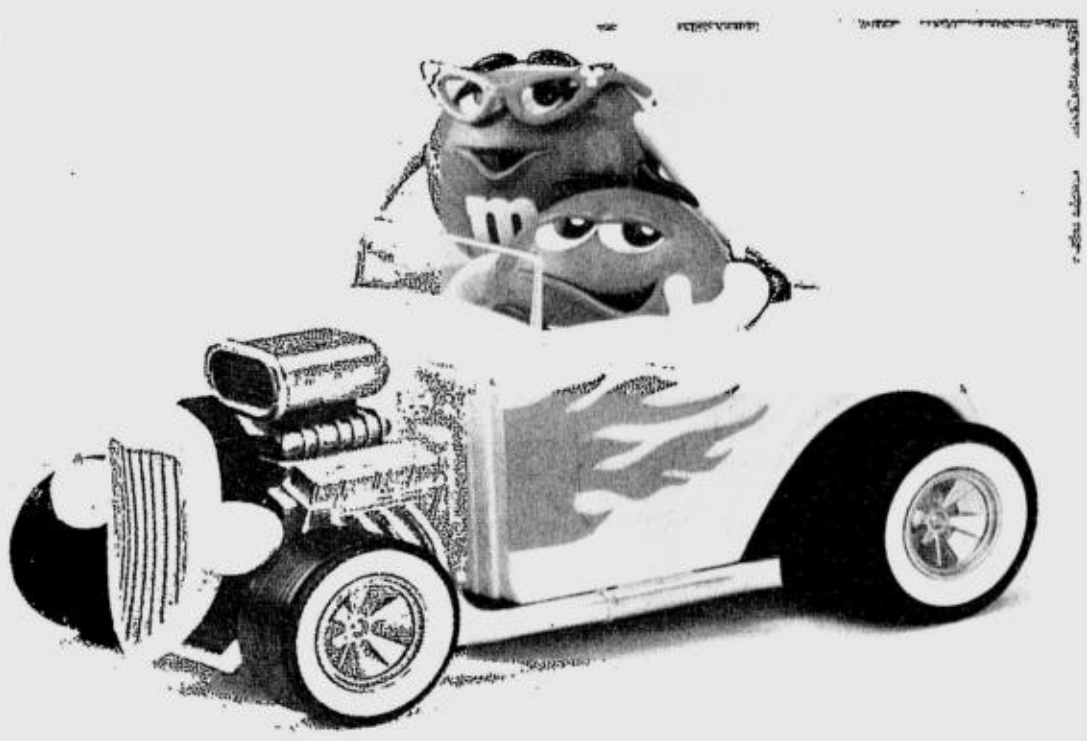

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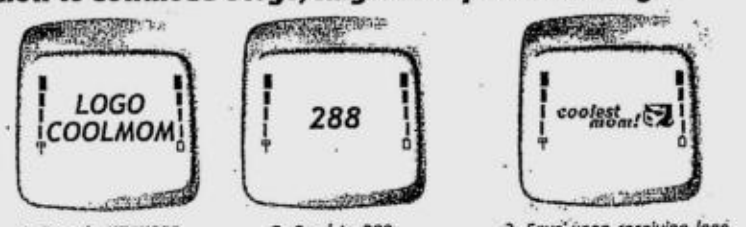

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Soak Up The Sun
Sheryl Crow
TONE SOAKUP

Sway
Bic Runga
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Kiss That Girl
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TONE KISSTHAT

Stillness Of Heart
Lenny Kravitz
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Feel
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TONE IFYOURNOT

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Mandy Moore
TONE WILKNOW

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Las Ketchup
TONE ASEREJE

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David Pomeranz
TONE KINGNQUEEN

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Santana
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Sixpence None The Richer
TONE DONTDRM

Don't Know Why
Norah Jones
TONE DNTKNWY

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Matchbox 20
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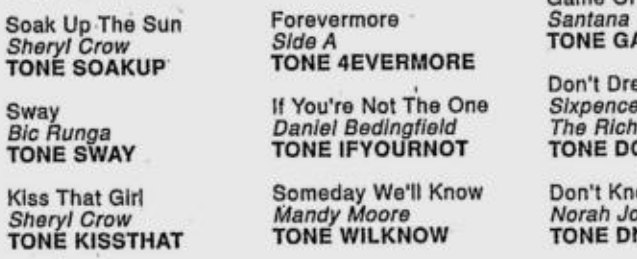

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'Choosing the Right School for a Better Future Part III'

Learning Robotics in the Philippines

By Laddie Mateo

Defined as a machine that looks like a human being and performs various complex acts such as walking or talking, robots have fascinated humans since they first appeared on television and in the movies.

Robotics, or the study of robots, focuses on re-programmable, multifunctional manipulation designed to move materials, parts, tools, or specialized devices through various programmed motions for the performance of a variety of tasks.

Although fictional, movies like Robocop, A.I. (Artificial Intelligence), and Star Wars have captured so much interest and awe that humans ceaselessly pursue to study Robotics, magnify its potentials and perfect its creation.

Advancements in Robotics will soon give way to super intelligent, creative, emotionally complex cyberbeings.

Out of this fascination for intelligent machines, more and more youth today display interest in the study of Robotics and a desire to have a career in this field that is now making waves in advanced science and high technology.

The AMA Robotics Program

In response to this burgeoning interest and in its unwavering commitment to further advance the skills and competency of the Filipino youth, the AMA Education System, the first and largest ICT-based education provider in Asia, has created the AMA Robotics Program.

Another first in the Philippines, the AMA Robotics Program focuses on technology integrating precision mechanical engineering with electronics and computers/information technology leading to the design and implementation of intelligent machines and processes.

AMA has upgraded its degree programs in selected Engineering and Computer courses to integrate the study of Robotics in the existing curricula. With this, students can choose Robotics as a major field of study when they enroll in any of the following courses: BS Computer Science, BS Information Technology, BS Computer Engineering and BS Electronics and Communications Engineering,

The AMA Robotics Program is currently being offered in all 50 AMA campuses nationwide.

Partnership with industry leader

AMA has partnered with FESTO, Inc., the Philippine subsidiary company of FESTO AG Germany, the leading supplier of industrial automation components worldwide in its pursuit of developing intense university degree programs on Robotics.

Robotics laboratories are set-up in AMA campuses to aid students in grasping the theories and applications of robotic intelligence. They house state-of-the-art facilities from FESTO, complete library and reference materials and the most advanced simulation softwares. These laboratories give students the most advanced hands-on training on automation and automated problem-solving and programming.

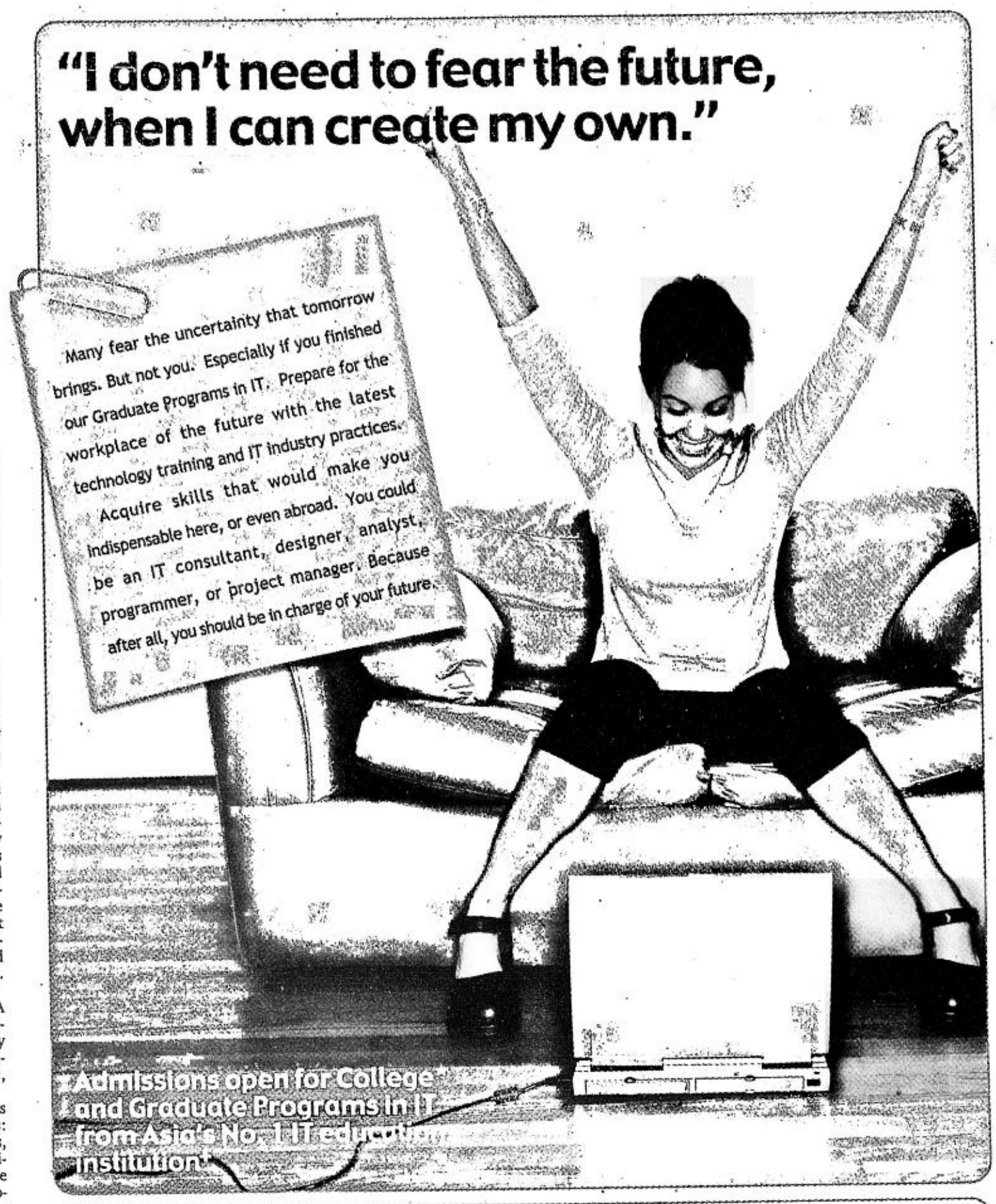
Career opportunities

With the combined efforts of AMA and FESTO, Robotics students are assured of world-class quality education, intensive training and endless employment opportunities, locally or abroad.

A myriad of career options awaits graduates of a degree in Robotics: Sales Engineers, Design Engineers, Technical Officers, Production Engineers, Production/Maintenance Supervisors, Assistant Engineers, Process/Automation Engineers, Electro Mechanical or Data Acquisition Engineers, Plant/Project Engineers, Computer Systems Analysts, and many others.

Aside from the guaranteed boost and upgrade in competency and competitiveness of the Filipino workforce, the advent of the Robotics Program in the country is also expected to be a revolutionary contribution to its industrial and economic components.

For more inquiries on the AMA Robotics Program, visit any AMA campus or call the AMA Global Education Services at 373-3901 to 09 local 8231/8275.



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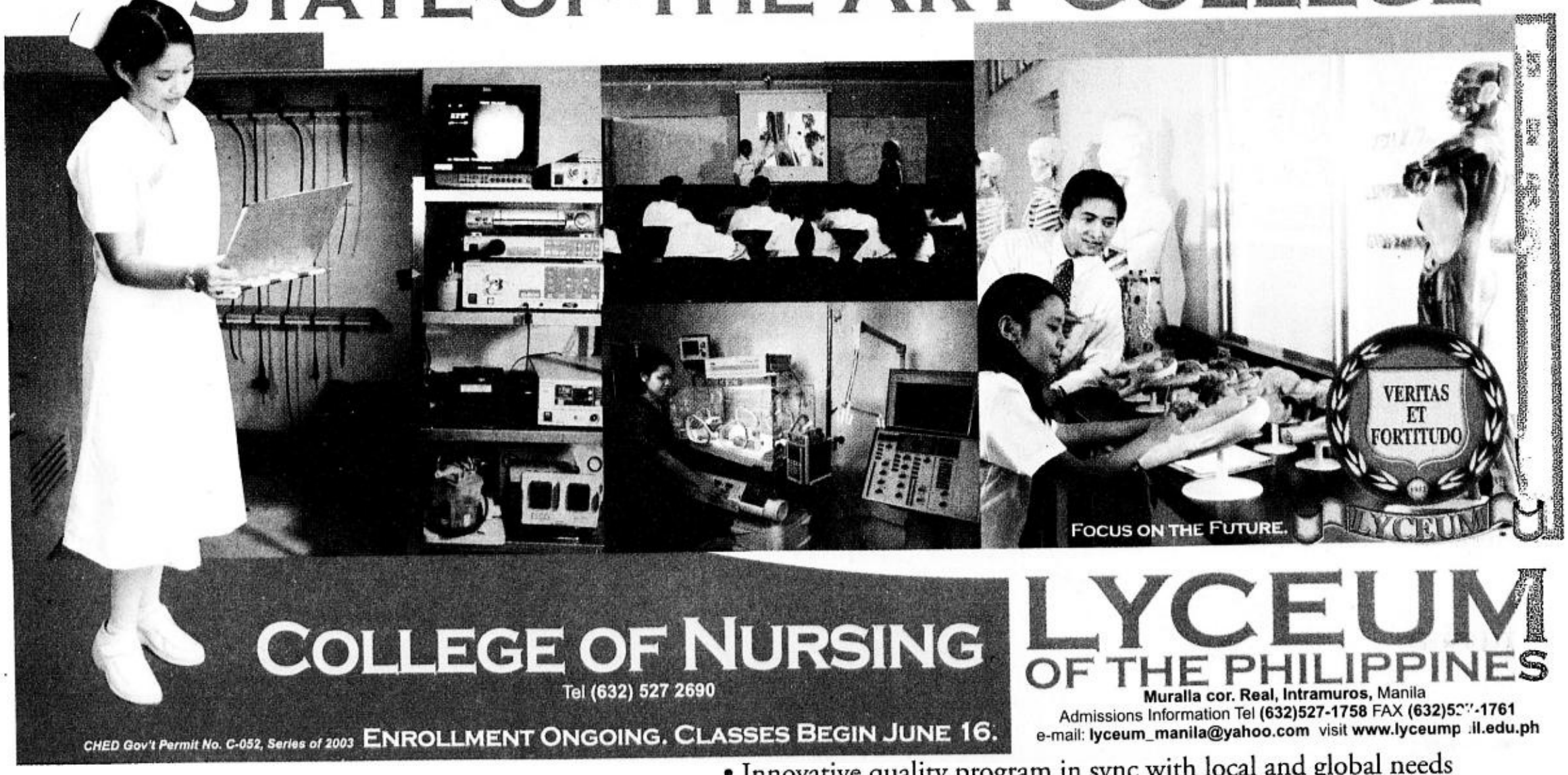

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CCP Holds Youth Day Summit Training at Puerto Galera

HOW DOES it feel like being in an unfamiliar environment with only your skills and survival knowledge as your weapons?

This is the theme of the Survival Training for the Trainors for this year's Youth Day Summit (YDS) organized annually by the Central Colleges of the Philippines (CCP).

Held last May 1 to 4, 2003 at Summer Connection Beach Resort in Puerto Galera, the YDS, founded by Mr. Cornelio Buenaventura, is a program that seeks to develop the personal, social and spiritual dimensions of the Filipino youth. YDS also aims to improve self-awareness, instill greater appreciation of the family and home, and improve the ability to face adversity amid a rapidly-changing world.

This year's participants for the survival training are composed of youth aged 18 to 23 who will become the next trainors of the YDS. They were divided into two teams wherein they were awarded points for their competitive, collaborative and negotiation skills.

Aside from the group games and physical activities, the participants had to use their own abilities and knowledge to be able to survive the four days of training, such as finding their own lodging, buying their food at the local market, cooking their meals, and negotiating with resort owners and market vendors.

During crucial times, the participants can seek assistance from the senior trainers, but they must explain first why they fell short in their negotiating efforts or spent more than what their budget required. Tents and airbeds were made ready, but the team who was unable to use their negotiation skills to the fullest were given point deductions. In the end, it is the cooperation of each member of the group that is important.

Edward Christian Nemis, an incoming 4th year Computer Engineering student from CCP shares his experience being the leader for this year's training camp.

"It was not easy being a leader, but it was fun and challenging. There was a shift in my personality from being a member to being a leader. I had to be authoritative and firm, I must have commanding power, yet there should be times that I step down and mingle with the other members of the group," he relates.

Of course, there were also some difficulties he experienced as a leader, particularly lack of planning and foresight. "It was hard, because I couldn't show them that I was experiencing a lot of pressure. But all of these were resolved, with the help of Mr. Buenaventura and the friends that cooperate and help ease the pain," Nemis says.

More than the development of their personal and social skills, Nemis says he valued the friendship and camaraderie formed after the rigid training. "I didn't only find friends but a second family worth treasuring and remembering for the rest of my life. I found a deeper meaning in the relationship. They are always of great support to me."

All in all, Nemis finds the YDS experience a truly fruitful one. "It's fun dealing with people from all walks of life, and meeting ordinary people doing extraordinary things."

Every student can also experience how it is to be part of YDS. The program is open to all interested participants who want to broaden their horizons, enhance their personal and social skills, and meet new friends. For more information, call the YDS office at 715-3777.

ICSEC and its continuous pursuit in bringing world class opportunities to Filipinos

CGFNS, NCLEX, TOEFL, TSE, USMLE, UPCAT, GMAT, GRE, LSAT, ELTS. Do these make sense to you? These are standardized tests that may provide you with opportunities and life changing pathways. International Cultural Studies and Education Corporation, Inc. or ICSEC is an institution that has helped thousands of students and professionals in their ten years of quiet existence in the country. ICSEC was formed in 1993 with the mission to train and educate their graduates to become responsible and well rounded individuals that shall lead and contribute to the country's positive growth. In the world now, the trend is in global economic integration brought about by market forces and technological innovations. The institution's priorities place itself highly to be able to create and spearhead borderless opportunities for their students. ICSEC holds the exclusive Philippine license to the Kaplan Educational Centers (USA). The Kaplan Educational system in the country has been a propelling force in sending our graduates for higher education and professional training outside the Philippines. Kaplan offers test preparation courses for more than 30 exams to help students and professionals increase the test scores they need for college professional school, business school, law school, and medical school. Kaplan offers far more than test preparation with over 180 permanent centers and 1200 classroom sites throughout the U.S. and overseas. Kaplan also owns and operates over 33 colleges in the USA. Please visit their website at www.Kaplan.com. For additional information call the centers at 3718966 & 68 (QC), 7357713-17 (Mla), 8138282 (Mkt.) and (032)2541388 (Cebu).

St. Mary's College of QC opens new programs

ST. MARY'S College of Quezon City has opened two new tertiary education programs for school year 2003-2004. Bachelor of Secondary Education with three majors: English, Mathematics and General Science; and Bachelor of Elementary Education major in English, Mathematics, and Early Childhood Education. It also offers the course Bachelor of Science in Communication Studies.

The school aims to produce Ignacian Marian leaders who continuously grow in faith and life in the context of our cultural heritage, in dialogue with other peoples and cultures. The graduates are expected to be service-oriented and committed to excellence.

St. Mary's College, which is run by the Religious of the Virgin Mary (RVM), is ISO 9001: 2000 certified. Its elementary and high school departments are accredited by PAASCU.

Enrollment is going on and classes will start on June 9, 2003.

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Editor Aries Espinosa

People, Events & Products

A worry-free summer retreat

SCHOOL'S out, the sun is up. What to do? Bring the entire family for a much-needed break away from the sights and sounds of city life. For a refreshing change, relax your senses amidst an abundance of nature's wonders. Being the country's last nature frontier, Palawan is the ideal destination for you.

On hand to take you to the beautiful island of Palawan and to some of Puerto Princesa's scenic spots is the Palawan Nature Experience or PAX, the Legend Hotel's exclusive tour package that promises great family fun and bonding experience. It's a complete deal for a worry-free vacation.

For P9,999 net per person, you and your family can go island-hopping at Honda Bay Islands, one of Palawan's popular tourist attractions. The tour includes a visit to Snake and Pandan Islands, both with sandy white beaches and beautiful coral reefs perfect for snorkeling. Aboard a motorized boat, you will also get a vantage view of Bat, Luli, Starfish and Cowrie Islands. The all-in package covers your roundtrip airfare via Air Philippines, 3 days and 2 nights accommodation at the Legend Hotel Palawan, roundtrip airport transfers, all meals, plus a city tour.

Other choices of destination include Nagtabon Beach (P10,399 net per person), a haven for those in search of peace and quiet. It boasts of a beautiful beach characterized as gradually sloping, powder-fine sand and a lovely shoreline. The Undergorund River Adventure (P10,999 net per person) is a good option for thrill-seekers who would like to be taken to the recesses of an 8-km-long cavern situated deep within the limestone and marble peaks of Mount St. Paul. On board a fiberglass paddle boat, you will enter the pitch dark interiors of the cave and traverse the still waters of the river to view the amazing stalactites and stalagmites hidden within. The Narra Town Excursion (P10,999 net per person) is a trip around the municipality rich in natural wonders. The day's itinerary includes a visit to Rasa Island, Arena Island, Crystal Paradise Resort and Estrella Falls.

The half-day city tour that comes with all tour choices takes guests to the Butterfly Garden where colorful butterflies and flowers abound, Crocodile Farm and Nature Park, home and breeding laboratory of the Philippine crocodile, Iwahig Penal Farm, a 37-hectare colony known as the oldest prison without bars, Kamarikutan Cape at Galeri, a souvenir-cum-café surrounded by the sights and sounds of nature, and Viet Ville where authentic Vietnamese cuisine can be sampled.

Land arrangements for as low as P4,599 net per person are available for those who prefer to arrange for their own airfare. Discounted rates for children are offered. Also available are special rates for groups of five and above.

For more information on PAX's worry-free tour packages, call The Legend Hotel's Manila sales office at 638-9256 and 58, or visit 60 Pioneer corner Madison Streets, Mandaluyong. You may also log on to www.experiencepalawan.com.ph.

UE CFA AWARDS WINNING SCHOOL

The University of the East College of Fine Arts (UE CFA) recently conducted an on-the-spot painting competition among artistically inclined high school students of Metro Manila and Bulacan-drawing in over 50 students from 12 different high schools, including UE's own Secondary Laboratory School. The UE CFA dean conceptual artist Gerardo M. Tan went to the schools involved to personally congratulate the competition's top winners and their respective schools. Here, Tan (2nd from left) formally awards the certificate of recognition to Caloocan Science High School principal Esmelita P. Ulangca. Jesse James Terrenal (4th from left), a student at the high school, won 3rd prize in the CFA contest. Also shown are UE CFA College secretary Angelito de Guzman (left) and Caloocan Science High School constituents. The UE College of Fine Arts is located at UE's Caloocan campus, 105 Samson Road, Caloocan City. For inquiries, call 362-3813.

NWCP HONORS OUTSTANDING WOMEN

The National Council of Women of the Philippines recently named four women journalists as the 2003 Outstanding Women in Media. Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas (3rd from left) and Myrna Yao, NCWP president (2nd from right), presented the awards to, from left, Pennie Azarcon Dela Cruz of Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Ellen Tordesillas of Malaya, Domini Torrevillas of Philippine Star, and Cynthia Santiago of MOD.

The deadly myths about sun protection

SUNLIGHT is considered as one of the essential elements for a healthy life. It can also cause plenty of skin troubles. Careless exposure to sunlight causes about 90 percent of premature skin aging, age spots, spider veins and sagging skin. Over time, high doses of sunlight can raise your risk of skin cancer.

Your skin, designed to be a shield for your body, needs protection for itself against the sun. Unfortunately, many are misinformed about the real truths about sun protection. Most people should use sunblock when they go to the beach. The truth is, you need to wear sunblock everyday, whether you are out in the sun or under the shade, whether its sunny or cloudy. Many still think that the higher the SPF (Sun Protection Factor) of a product is, the better sun protection they will get. They better think again.

It is necessary that we understand exactly what we want to be protected from. The invisible ultraviolet (UV) rays from the sun is the culprit. It is categorized into three: UVA, UVB and UVC rays. There is an easy way to remember the kind of damage the UV rays inflict. The A ray causes aging, the B rays are responsible for burning, and the C rays, cancer.

Most of the UV rays that reach the earth is UVA, and it causes the most damage. You don't see the effect at once but unfortunately, it accumulates over time. After age 30, tell tale signs of skin aging begin to show. Since it has the longest wavelength, UVA rays penetrate the deepest, through clouds, shades even indoors. That is why it is important that we apply sunblock everyday. The problem is most sunblocks use chemical sunscreen which provide only limited protection against UVA rays and almost none against UVC rays. Worse, the chemicals breakdown rapidly in the sun, thus they require frequent application.

The SPF rating refers only to UVB protection. A higher SPF rating therefore does not guarantee protection against the more harmful UVA rays. An SPF rating of 15 is sufficient for daily use, and you have to look for zinc oxide on the label to ensure that the product shields against UVA and UVC rays as well. Zinc oxide is the only sunscreen ingredient that protects against the entire UV range, from UVA to UVC. It is non-photo-reactive, meaning it maintains its effectiveness for a long period of time even with sun exposure.

Godiva, which uses only the best available ingredients in its products, offers a daily use sunblock cream with zinc oxide in an ultrafine form call Z-block. It gives a matte, transparent finish. You will look like you are not wearing anything, unlike the other greasy sunscreens in the market. Its especially suited for application on the face neck, and other exposed body parts. Godiva calls its sunblock cream "Green Tea" because it also contains a super-antioxidant from green tea extract. Antioxidants are needed to neutralize free radicals and repair sun damaged skin cells. The superior-antioxidant in green tea is called EGCG. In a recent research by Dr. Lester Mitsche of University of Kansas, EGCG was found to be 100 times more effective than vitamin C and 25 times better than vitamin E at protecting cells.

Godiva skin care products are available at leading health and beauty stores, drug stores and supermarkets.

PIZZA HUT EDSA CENTRAL COURTESY VISIT

Pizza Hut recently paid a courtesy visit to Mandaluyong City Mayor Benjamin Abalos, in line with the opening of its newly renovated restaurant in Edsa Central. Shown are (from left) Alex M. Pambid of marketing, Abalos, restaurant general manager Edmar Bustamante and Pizza Hut special projects manager Rex Natalia.

'Mass Appeal! (Six Priests in the City)'

THE CHAPEL of the Eucharistic Lord will stage a fund-raising concert titled "Mass Appeal! (Six Priests in the City)" on May 21 at 8 p.m. to be held at Megatrade Halls 1, 2 and 3, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City.

The concert will feature Diocesan priests Fr. Ray Victor T. Pascual, chaplain of the Chapel of the Eucharistic Lord, Fr. Joel Jason, San Carlos Seminary, Fr. Steven Zabala, parish priest of Our Lady of Pentecost Parish, Loyola Heights, Quezon City, Fr. Allan Samonte, parish priest of the Immaculate Concepcion Parish, Novaliches, Quezon City, and Fr. Erick Santos, parish priest of Sto. Nino Parish, Tondo, Manila.

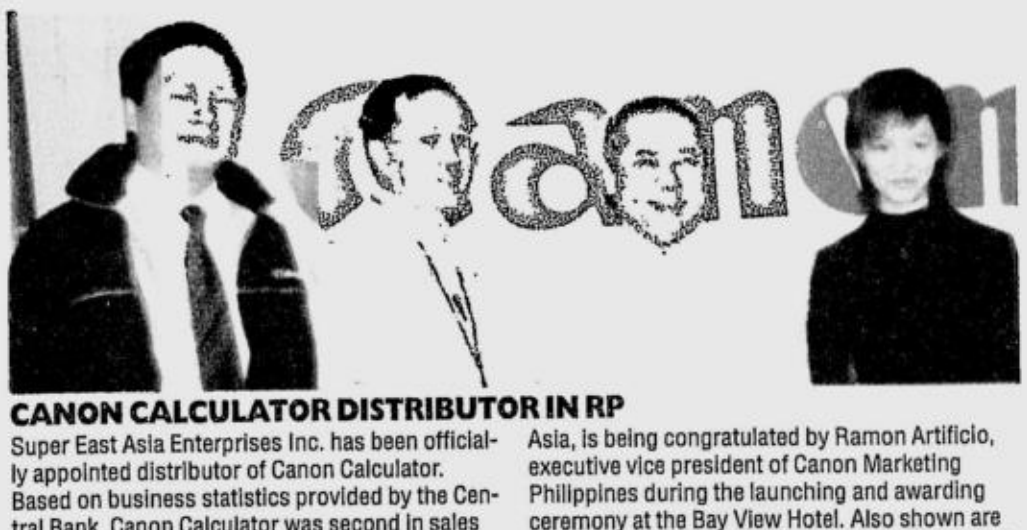
Invited guest performers are Jose Marie Chan and Giselle Sanchez. The show is directed by Jaime del Mundo, with Ronaldo Y. Bello as the musical director.

Proceeds of the concert will go to the Archdiocesan seminarians of the Archdiocese of Manila. Tickets, priced at P200 and P250, are available at the Chapel of the Eucharistic Lord. For ticket reservations, call 638-8801.

The concert is held in conjunction with the 5th anniversary of the Chapel of the Eucharistic Lord.

WINNERS OF A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Anchor Milk, in close partnership with Mercury Drug, and CAP (College Assurance Plan) Philippines announced the winners of the Brighter Future Raffle Promo. Grand prize winners Evony Labso of Antipolo City and Cristina Garcia of Caloocan City have now secured a brighter future for their kids as they bagged a CAP Educational Plan worth P200,000 each. Second prize winners Jeremy Chad Jameco of Bacolod City and Estrellita Denoyo of Cebu each won a CAP Educational plan worth P100,000. Maria Josefa Villarubel, Elenita Matus, Carl Einstein Cortes, Joan Dalingay and Reycle Dela Cruz, third prize winners, individually took home P20,000 worth of toys and gift certificates from Kidz Station. Over 190 consolation winners got special prizes as well as premium items from Anchor Milk. Shown during the awarding are (from left) Carlo Mendoza, New Zealand Milk sales director, the grand prize winners, and Mario Marron, Mercury Drug assistant vice president-merchandising division creative business and support group.



CANON CALCULATOR DISTRIBUTOR IN RP

Super East Asia Enterprises Inc. has been officially appointed distributor of Canon Calculator. Based on business statistics provided by the Central Bank, Canon Calculator was second in sales in March 2002. William Sia (2nd from right), president/chief executive officer of Super East Asia, is being congratulated by Ramon Artificio, executive vice president of Canon Marketing Philippines during the launching and awarding ceremony at the Bay View Hotel. Also shown are Vinchy Sanchez of CMP and Sharon Li, sales and marketing, Canon Hong Kong.

CHANGHONG PARTICIPATES IN APPLIANCE FAIR

Changhong Appliance is one of the exhibitors of the ongoing SM-Citibank Appliance Fiesta from April 26 to May 18 at the 5th level of the Megatrade Hall, SM Megamall. In photo are its promo merchandiser / sales and marketing manager, Mr Chris Chiong (extreme right).

ProductFILES

A taste of 'X-Men 2'

DUNKIN Donuts offers your kids the most enjoyable perks of summer as it offers "X-Men 2" fun items. Because when you bring home to your kids a dozen of their favorite Dunkin Donuts, you can get them one free"X-Men" puzzle to play with.

The puzzles come in four collectible designs and each features one "X-Men" character. So you can collect Wolverine, Storm, Pyro or Lady Deathstrike puzzles. That's not all. When your kids finish collecting all four, they can put them all together to make one big picture that's as good as an "X-Men" poster. Plus, each puzzle also includes a special frame where kids can insert their photo for them to fully experience the fun of "X-Men" too.

So let your kids enjoy their summer with a dozen Dunkin' Donuts now. You not only bring them the goodness of Dunkin Donuts, you also let them experience the fun and adventure of their favorite action heroes of "X-Men". This one-of-a-kind offer is available from April 20 to May 20 in all participating Dunkin' Donuts outlets nationwide.

BITS & Clips

Don Bosco HS '63 retro concert

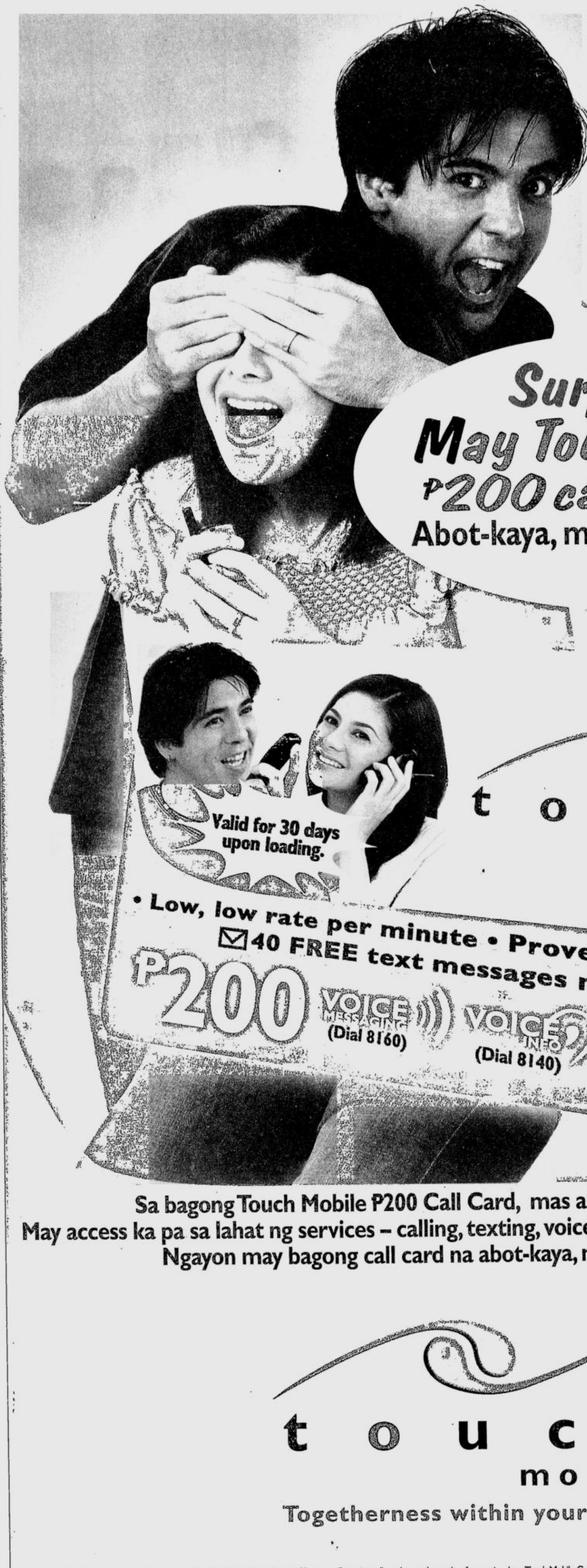
GLOBE Telecom, in cooperation with Caritas del Sto. Dominic Savio Inc., is sponsoring a concert billed "Romancing the '60s at the NBC Tent, Fort Bonifacio, 7:30 p.m. on May 14. Headlining the event is the Spirit of '67 Band, one of the most popular retro groups in the country today. The concert also features Oldies but Goodies Band as the front act. Proceeds from the concert will fund vocational scholarships for out-of-school youths to be administered by Caritas del Sto. Dominic Savio Inc., a non-profit foundation established by the Don Bosco Mandaluyong High School Class of 1963. Co-sponsoring the event are Joey 92.3, Nestle, Boysen Paints, Philippine Daily Inquirer, NBC Tent and Airfreight 2100. Tickets are available at the NBC Tent Office, Fort Bonifacio. For reservations, call 887-6000 and 887-8000.

PLDT guarantees speedy reporting of the Tour Pilipinas 2003

TOUR Pilipinas 2003 has the country's best cyclist gearing up for the final leg of the 18-day tour, but only the cream of the crop will emerge as winners this Sunday. With the robust domestic fiber optic network and digital microwave facilities of PLDT, the country now enjoys live updates and remote broadcasts from any point of the race which can be viewed at NBN 4. Fans can also call the Tour Pilipinas Hotline to join the contest about the tour and win exciting prizes. Just dial the 1-908-1-TOUR03 or 1-908-1-868703.

'Pista' in Concert at the Park

THIS month of May, concert at the Park celebrates the traditional Philippine fiesta topped with homegrown talented artists. The music of the Muntinlupa City Band reverberates at the park on May 11 featuring selections that are most popular in fiestas. Popularly known as the 'singing bamboos', the country's ingenious musical band, Pangkat Kawayan brings the familiar atmosphere of Philippine life through their unique bamboo music on May 18. The Centro Escolar University stages a culturally enriching presentation on May 25 titled 'Handog CEU' featuring the CEU Stage Band, CEU Conservatory of Choir and Dramatic Guild.



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Loving mom from the mouths of kids

Text and photos by Joel V. Nigos

Danniella says that it's a good thing we're celebrating Mothers' Day. According to her, this is an occasion when we can show that they are important to us

MOTHERS know best, as the saying goes, but when it comes to honest-to-goodness, unadulterated description of mothers, ask the kids. Children are reputed to be an honest lot, they tell exactly the way things are. They see red as red and blue as blue, and there's no doubt about it.

Besides, when we talk of mothers, the kids won't be left behind. Mothers would not be mothers without the kids that came from their wombs. And that's the only thing that distinguishes a mother from a, well, would-be mother.

Aside from being honest, little tykes have also become more intelligent, keener on things happening around them. Gone are the days when Mother's Day passes by without any hint from them. Kids today know it's coming, and they are planning for it.

For 9-year-old Ma. Daniella "Dang" Varilla, she regards Mother's Day as a special day for mom and an occasion to give back the love her mother Mayeth has given her.

"*Bibili ako ng regalo para kay Mama para maging masaya siya. At iki-kiss ko siya ng maraming-marami dahil mahal ko siya*," Dang relates.

Dang, an incoming 3rd grader at St. Mary's College Quezon City, says it's good for people to celebrate Mothers' Day. According to her, this is an occasion when we can show they are important to us.

A gift for mom is also in the mind of Westin Maduro, also an incoming 3rd grader. For her, a self-crafted necklace with matching flowers are the best way to make her mother Susan happy on Mother's Day.

For Dianne Stephanie Pineda, 12, a handmade card would be a fitting present to her mother Myrna today. Eldest in a brood of three, she says she would be able to express her feelings to her mom better in a card she delicately created."*Makakatipid pa ako para sa darating na pasukan*," she adds.

Husbands sometimes forget, but the kids won't. Asked what mothers do for them, their lists are a litanies.

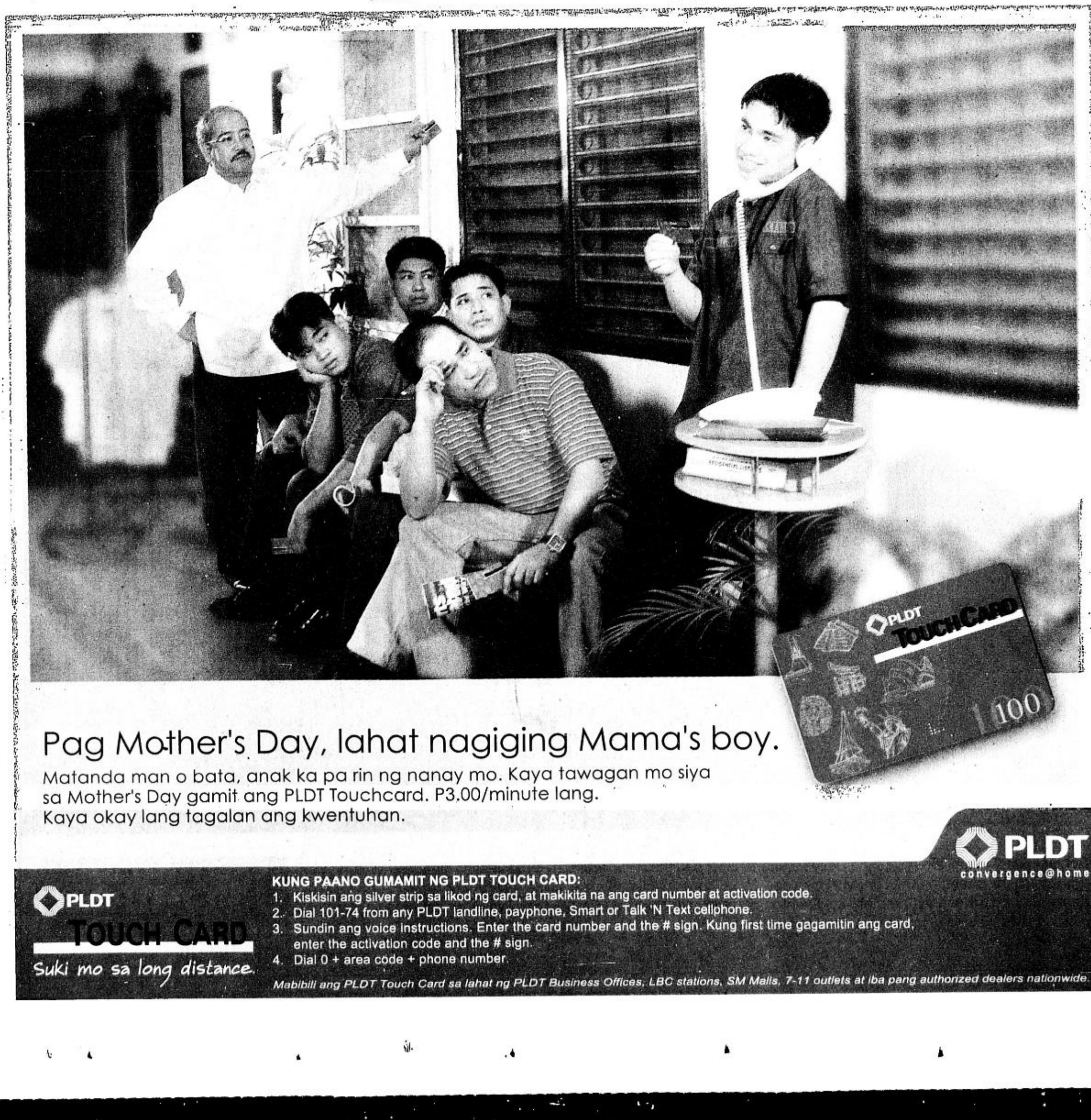
"*Inaalagaan niya kaming mabuti, nililigtas niya kami kapag may umaaway sa amin*," relates Dang, mischievously pointing at her little sister Ma. Alexandria. "*Siya ang nagluluto ng pagkain namin, tinutulungan niya akong maghanda kapag papasok na ako sa school, at tinuturuan niya rin ako sa pag-aaral*," she adds.

Westin, for her part, ech-

LOVING/O3

A HANDMADE card as a present on Mothers' Day, Dianne Stephanie (extreme left) with brother Ed Bryan, mother Myrna and younger sister Jenny Lyne.

SHE'LL save money to buy a gift on her mother's birthday, Ma. Daniella (extreme left), with mother Mayeth, sister Ma. Alexandria and father lawyer Omar Varilla.



Pag Mother's Day, lahat nagiging Mama's boy.

Matanda man o bata, anak ka pa rin ng nanay mo. Kaya tawagan mo siya sa Mother's Day gamit ang PLDT Touchcard. P3.00/minute lang. Kaya okay lang tagalan ang kwentuhan.

PLDT convergence@home

PLDT TOUCH CARD
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KUNG PAANO GUMAMIT NG PLDT TOUCH CARD:
1. Kiskisin ang silver strip sa likod ng card, at makikita na ang card number at activation code.
2. Dial 101-74 from any PLDT landline, payphone, Smart or Talk 'N Text cellphone.
3. Sundin ang voice instructions. Enter the card number and the # sign. Kung first time gagamitin ang card, enter the activation code and the # sign.
4. Dial 0 + area code + phone number.

Mabibili ang PLDT Touch Card sa lahat ng PLDT Business Offices, LBC stations, SM Malls, 7-11 outlets at iba pang authorized dealers nationwide.

A necessity in relieving old folks condition

THESE DAYS incontinence among old people, mother's included, is a primary concern and not as some physical condition that should be tolerated or be ashamed of.

There is a solution to relieve such condition and in the forefront of giving such aid is DR. P the number one adult diaper sold in the market today.

As for comfort and value-for-money, Dr. P has an absorbent pad that is bigger than other adult diapers. It is also affordable and can be bought in leading supermarkets, groceries, drugstores and other outlets. Value for money because of its quality and features being the No. 1 adult diaper made affordable through its basic variant. And the absorbent pad core size of Dr. P is bigger than competitors. Thus, consumers of the other products do not get their money's worth.

Adult diapers are important and beneficial for both users and caregivers. It helps elders manage their incontinence or poor bladder and bowel control. It is also used in care and hygiene management of geriatrics in a hospital setting, home care and even travel. Patients undergoing post-maternity and post surgery can also use this product.

Dr. P is available in several variants (for moderate to heavy incontinence): packed in medium 2s, 10sm 16s, and large 13s. They are all vacuum packed to ensure product safety. Dr. P standard and premium types are for moderate to heavy incontinence. Available in medium 2'6, 10's, 16's and large 13's. Basic type is for light incontinence available in medium 2's and 10's and large 2's and 8's . Vacuum packed, half-transparent packaging.

Dr. P has an antibiosis and deodorization layer that effectively controls harmful germs in urine and feces and helps neutralize unpleasant smells. It has high-speed channels that enhances absorption of urine and ensures its even flow across the pad. It also has the wetness indicator that makes diaper checks extra convenient and accurate.

TRIVIA

The woman who started it all

"A PRINTED card means nothing except that you are too lazy to write to the woman who has done more for you than anyone in the world. And candy! You take a box to Mother—and then eat most of it yourself. A pretty sentiment."

These words came from the mouth of Anna Jarvis, founder of Mother's Day.

Anna Marie Jarvis was born in Webster, West Virginia on May 1, 1864. According to historical records, at an early age, Anna heard her mother express hope that a memorial would be established for all mothers, living and dead.

Anna's mother, Mrs. Anna M. Jarvis, had been instrumental in developing "Mothers Friendship Day" which was part of the healing process of the Civil War.

Mrs. Jarvis had established a group of Mothers' Day Work Clubs in Webster, Grafton, Fetterman, Pruntytown, and Philippi, (West Virginia) to improve health and hygiene practices and conditions, before the beginning of the Civil War.

During the Civil War, Mrs. Anna Jarvis urged the Mothers' Day Work Clubs to declare their neutrality and to help both Union and Confederate soldiers. The clubs treated the wounded and fed and clothed soldiers that were stationed in the area. Near the end of the war, the Jarvis family moved to the larger town of Grafton, West Virginia. Naturally, as West Virginians fought on both sides during the war (the state, incorporated into the Union in 1864, was part of Virginia before the war), there was great tension when the soldiers returned home.

In the summer of 1865, Anna Jarvis organized a Mothers' Friendship Day at the courthouse in Pruntytown to bring together soldiers and neighbors of all political beliefs. The event was a complete success promoting friendship and peace.

Mothers' Friendship Day became an annual event for several years. After the death of her father in 1902, Anna — along with her mother and sister, Lillie— moved to Philadelphia to reside with her brother, Claude. It wasn't long after that her mother died.

When Mrs. Jarvis died on May 9, 1905, her daughter Anna was resolved to honor her. She also felt that even though the US was a hardworking, industrialized nation, the adult children of her generation had become negligent in the treatment of their parents.

In 1907, Anna began a campaign to establish a national Mother's Day.

Anna led a small tribute to her mother at Andrews Methodist Church on May 12 of that year, the 2nd anniversary of her mother's death. It was from that moment on that she dedicated her life to establishing a nationally recognized Mother's Day, By the next year Mother's Day was also celebrated in her own city of Philadelphia.

Jarvis and her supporters began to write to godly ministers, evangelists, businessmen, and politicians in their crusade to establish a national Mother's Day. This campaign was a success. By 1911, Mother's Day was celebrated in almost every state in the Union. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson made the official announcement proclaiming Mother's Day as a national holiday that was to be held each year on the second Sunday of May.

The one-woman crusade of Anna Jarvis is often overlooked in History books.

Women during the early 1900s were engaged in many other reform efforts that the history behind Mother's Day is often neglected. But it is likely that it was these other reforms and the avenues they opened for women that paved the way for Anna Jarvis to succeed in her campaign for Mother's Day.

It must be noted that, while Miss Jarvis spent most of her adult life striving to create a special day to honor mothers, in the end, she was disappointed with the way Mother's Day turned out. As the popularity of the holiday grew, so did its commercialization. What she had intended as a day of sentiment quickly turned into a day of profit. In the end, shortly before her death, Anna Jarvis told a reporter that she was sorry she ever started Mother's Day.

From www.mainstreetmom.com and written by Patricia Chadwick, a freelance writer.

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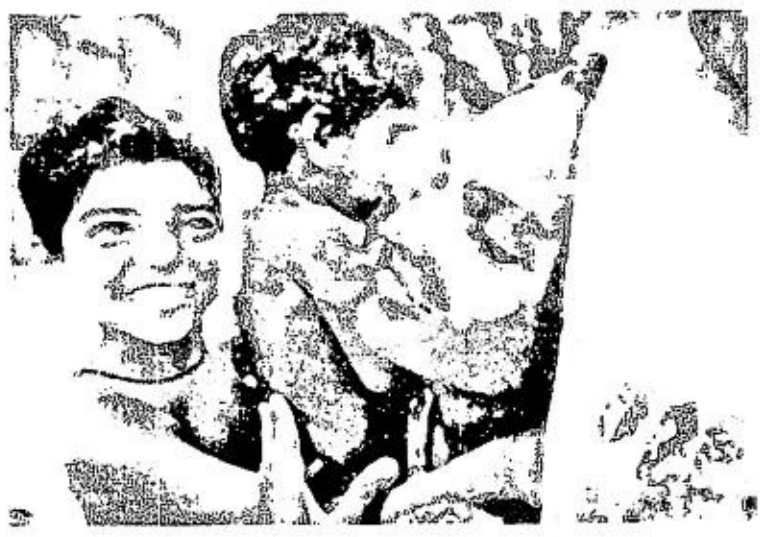

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Celebrating Mother's month with discounts

ENERVON-C Plus is paying tribute to mothers with attractive discounts the whole month of May 2003 to help promote the health of their children.

The discounts are as follows: 60 ml – P5 off, 120 ml – P10 off. Together with this, Mercury Drug Calendar holders are entitled to P15 off and P25 for the 250 and 500 ml variants respectively provided they purchase the products with calendar coupons.

Enervon-C Plus users are assured of superior body resistance through the unique combination of Vitamin A – protects the skin as a first line of defense, Vitamin B – increases body resistance and Vitamin C – protects against infections. This unique synergy of vitamins strengthens the body's external and internal lines of defense.

Mother's Month has been selected for the discount offer because a child's health is the most precious gift mother can receive.

Enervon-C Plus, a household by-word vitamin syrup supplement produced by the Consumer Health Division of United Laboratories (Unilab), has been contributing to the well being of Filipino children for many years.

A just reward for the best mom in the world: Sea splendor at The Spa

THE HOT and humid weather adds more stress to a mother's already hectic work week. What better way to spend the onset of one's weekend than amidst a sea-inspired setting at The Spa, from Phytomer, the world leader in marine cosmetics.

March 8 marked the launch of this newest brand of Luxasia through a tie up with The Spa in Bel-Air, Makati. Special female guess, including writers and editors of different publications, and celebrities Miriam Quiambao and Angel Aquino, enhoyed various treatments in a spa soiree where Phytomer products were used.

Phytomer offers a unique approach to skin care that is true and natural. Based on the premise that the epidermis and algae have behavioral similarities, the Phytomer face and body care products allow access to the remineralizing and balancing virtues of the sea. Skin achieves a quality of exceptional tolerance against damage caused by the environment, keeping it beautiful and supple.

This Mother's Day, reward yourself for being the best mom in the world, come and experience the natural sensations of Phytomer facial treatments at The Spa Acropolis, Alabang, Bel-Air and Greenbelt. Embrace the riches of the sea in the comfort of your homes through Phytomer Home Care products which are exclusively available at Rustan's Department Store Makati and Shangrila Plaza Mall. For inquiries call 729-3226 up to 28, 729-1031.

Only the best for mom at Discovery Suites

WHAT'S the perfect expression of your love? Every year, doting kids flex their creative muscle in attempt to top last year's Mother's Day present. Why not try something new this year?

Pamper mom with a cozy a luxurious overnight stay at Discovery Suites. Have a slumber party and laugh over childhood memories, catch up on the most recent family "news" rediscover your strong bond with mom, or just savor each other's company.

When you book an overnight stay from May 10 to 11, your mom will get a soothing and relaxing massage – her choice of a Swedish or sports massage or a salt scrub treatment – at the Discovery Spa, a Mother's Day buffet lunch for two at Café Berrio, shopping discounts at The Podium, a 50 percent discount on haircut from Paradigm Salon, and a special gift from Alyssa Ashley. Guests can choose from accommodations in a Junior suite at P4,500++, one bedroom suite at P5,000++, two bedroom suite at P7,500 ++, three bedroom suite at P10,000 ++.

Celebrate this special day with a mouthwatering lunch buffet at Café Barrio. All mother and child look-alikes who avail of the buffet lunch and dinner from May 7 to 11, get a free Canon calculator and a 4R print courtesy of PC Live & Accent Micro Products. The best Mother and Child photo wins an overnight stay at Discovery Suites and a Powershot A10 Canon Digital Camera.

The Mother's Day treat of Discovery Suites is presented in cooperation with Canon, Biogesic for Kids, House of Accessories, Alyssa Ashley and Femina. For reservations and inquiries, call 635-2222.

Loving mom, from . . .

Para sa 'yo Mommy, isang taos-pusong 1-4-8.
Happy Mother's Day!

EIGHT O'CLOCK
Sarap Ng Alaga Ni Mommy!

From page O1

oes these "heroics". "*Siya ang nag-aasikaso sa pamilya, nag-aayos ng bahay, at palagi niya akong tinuturuan sa aking pag-aaral.*"

For Dianne, it's her mother's support in her schooling she believes the most important. She says her mother does not only make studying her lessons easier but also fun.

Even more are the fond memories with mom during intimate moments. "She sings to me," says Westin.

"*Kapag namamasyal kami, tinitingnan ko kung ano ang mga paborito niyang bilhin, tr- nag-iipon ako para pag-birthday niya, mabiigyan ko siya ng gift,*" Dang relates.

They also know what an ideal mother should be, qualities they believe they want to have when they become mothers also.

Dang says mothers should be disciplined so they could take care of their kids more. For Dianne, being loving and kind is important, while Westin says"*dapat sila ay malambing, maalalahanin at mabuti ang kalooban.*"

Festival Supermall presents May family events and activities

THIS May, Festival Supermall in Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang features events and activities that foster closer ties and togetherness.

Moms trying to find time to bond with their kids can do so during the art wor hop this Sunday, May 11, 3 to 5 p.m. at the Pixie Forest Amusement Center, Level 3. Kids between 5 to 12 years old will learn how to make a collage using different art materials.

Moms take the runaway as "Glimpse", a special Mother's Day fashion show, unfolds on May 11 at 1 p.m. at the Expo Trade and Music Hall, Level 4.

Appreciating works of art can be also enjoyable for the family. Starting May 9 to 18 see the latest designs and innovation in furniture making as the Chamber of Furniture Industries of the Philippines (CFIP) brings to the south an exhibit of fine furniture pieces called "Barely Summer."

The mall recognizes that a wedding is always a big family affair, so staging an exhibit called "D' Garden Wedding Fair" from May 20 to 21 will certainly help ate and kuya make exquisite wedding choices.

Parents can start preparing their kids' school needs early on (plus satisfy moms' hidden shopping agenda) when stores cut down prices or offer substantial discounts during the mall-wide weekend sale on May 30 to June 1. Other weekend sale offers are on June 13 to 15 and June 20 to 22.

Family bonding through movies is made doubly fun because of freebies (free passes, popcorn, and big discounts) that go with drinking Pepsi at the Festival Cinemas from May 30 to June 1.

For more information, please call Customer Service at 850-3514 or visit www.festivalsupermall.com. Festival Supermall is the largest shopping, dining and entertainment complex in Southern Metro Manila with over 400 specialty stores and restaurants.

Mother's Day at SM Supermalls

SUNDAY, May 11 is Mother's Day, a 're-ward mom' event traditionally observed on the second Sunday of May.

Getting a headstart on the celebration, SM Supermalls, have lined up special treats for mom, including delightful dining at her choice of in-mall restaurants, exciting shopping adventure and fabulous fun at participating establishments.

A series of live performance and hands-on activities celebrating Mother's Day are also on-going at SM Supermalls. In live afternoon concerts billed as 'A Tribute to Mom,' local artists serenade mom with a repertoire of heartwarming melodies.

On the other hand, the one-hour Maggi-sponsored cooking demonstration is designed to enhance Mom's cooking know-how.

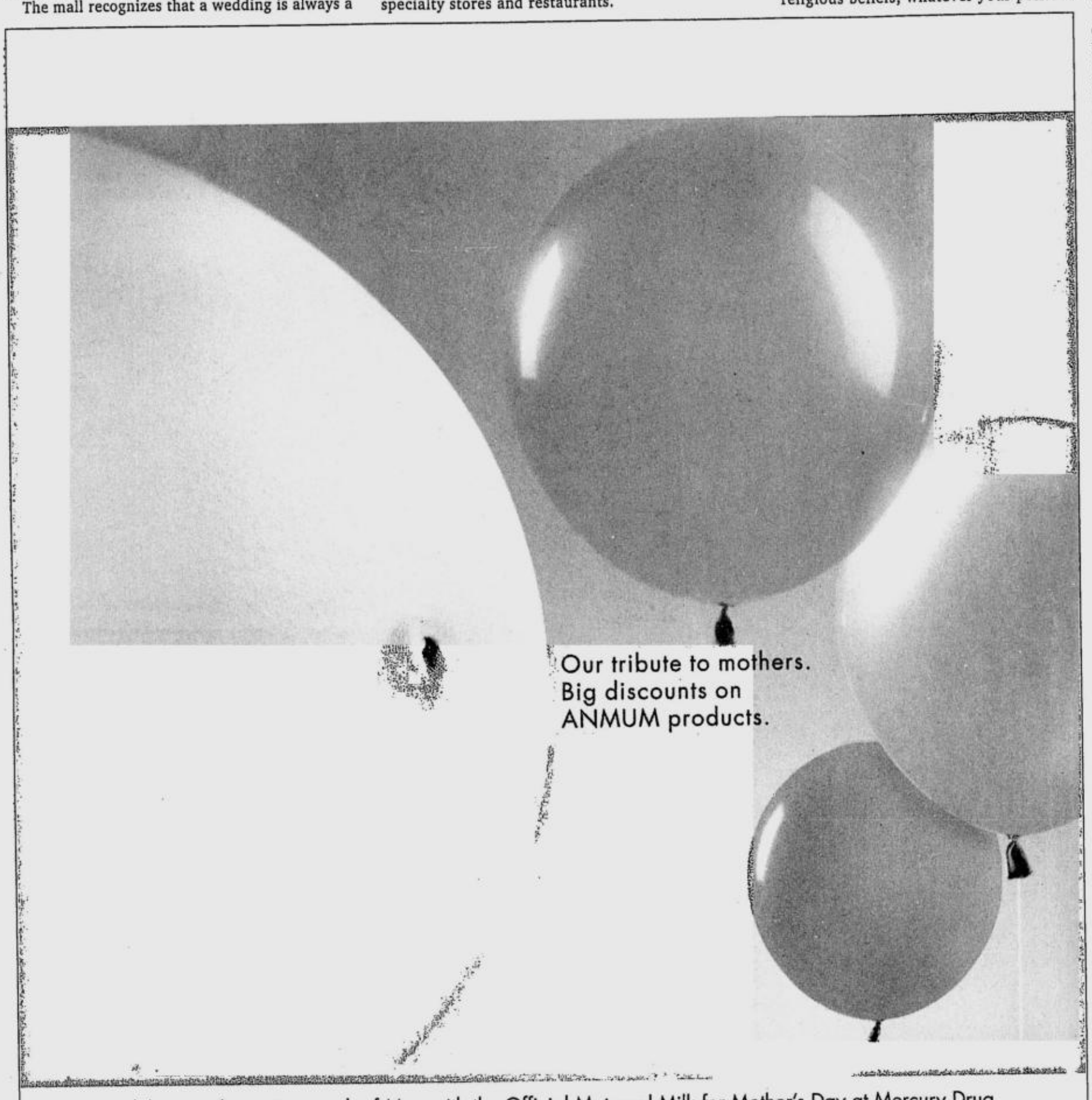
On the 'looking her best' category, 'Beauty Make-over' experts from Watsons offer tips on how to keep mom young and beautiful even while 'on the job.' While the 'moms-in-style' fashion event sponsored by Essenxa gives mom a glimpse of the hottest trends in wears and fashion accessories.

Mothers for Peace launch national campaign

PEACE is every mother's dream. With peace, we know our children's future, we know our children's future is insecure. But terrorism, the war in Mindanao, and violence in other parts of the country makes fearful. Today, as mothers we come together to stand for peace. Whatever your status in life, whatever your religious beliefs, whatever your political affiliation, you are a mother for peace.

Show your desire for peace. For Mother's Day May 11, proudly wear a blue ribbon with the letter 'M' in the middles. Peace is for our children's precious future. Join the Mothers for Peace Campaign. For more information, write or call telefax (082) 298-4302 or email us at mc_women@hotmail.com.

Campaign committee: Mindanao Commission on Women (Secretariat), Mindanao Business Council, Ranao Center for Peace and Development – Bangsamoro Youth, Women's Business Council, Bridging Gaps Foundation, Zonta International, Soroptimist International, Sambayanihan Foundation, Citizens Action Against Crime, Sigma Delta Phi Alumni Association, The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service (Towns), Women in Nation-Building (WIN), Stop Foundation (Stop Trafficking of Filipinos) and Mindanao Coalition of NGO's (Mincode)



Celebrating this entire month of May with the Official Maternal Milk for Mother's Day at Mercury Drug.
Get big discounts on all ANMUM products only with us at all our outlets.

mercury drug
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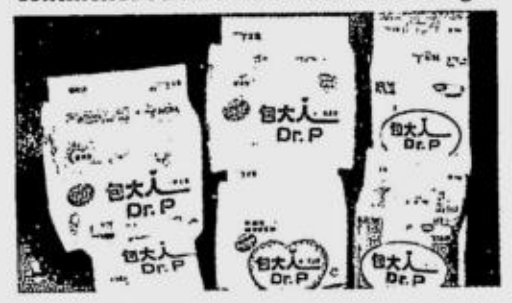
ANMUM®
For baby's brain development.

Valid from May 1 to 31, 2003 DOH-BFAD Permit No.: 03375.2003

For the most important woman in your life

Dr. P adult diaper launched recently its month-long promo for all weekends of May, called the "Push Girl" to help mothers, aged 55 and above, understand better a condition called "incontinence" or the inability to control urine flow and bowel movement. The disorder is found to affect 2.6 million Filipinos. In its effort to help sufferers of incontinence relieve the discomfort brought



by the disorder, Dr. P adult diaper was designed with a super absorbent pad, antibiosis and deodorization layer that kills harmful bacteria and neutralize unpleasant odors. Dr. P is available in Basic for light incontinence, Standard for moderate incontinence and Premium for heavy incontinence and is distributed exclusively in the Philippines by East Valley Enterprise Inc. Dr. P is available in all leading supermarkets and drugstores nationwide.

Victoria Court celebrates Mother's Day

VICTORIA Court knows how to make women happy. We know just how much you love getting chocolates. We also know that you adore receiving flowers. And being that it's Mother's Day, we though how fitting it would be to indulge you with a special treat. Experience any of Victoria Court's sensual suites and be pleasantly surprised by a free box of chocolate tulips placed delightfully in the middle of your bed. Three luscious pink chocolate tulips resting inside a sweet red box; for Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 9 to 11 only. Just remember to share with your man as well, we are quite sure he would like to have a taste himself. This same offer is also available at Vinta Lodge, managed no less by the friendly people of Victoria Court.

Mango timewear: a perfect gift for mom

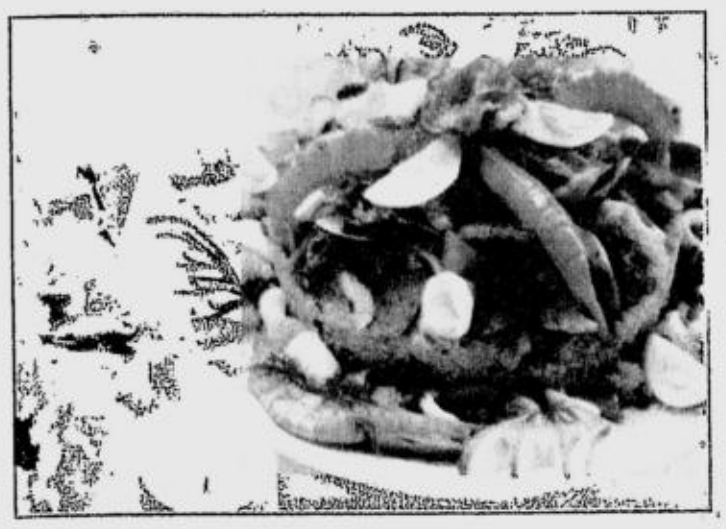
MANGO unleash its latest style of timewear that dramatically blends beauty and ingenuity. Its sleek and slender design evokes sensuality and refinement. Mango timepiece boasts of unparalleled performance with its highly précised automatic movement. Its care is scratch resistant and water resistant to 30 meters. A fitting gift for a hardworking mom.

Mother's Day at the Old Swiss Inn

BRING back memories for your mother at the Old Swiss Inn. Old time favorites such as fondues will make this "Mother's Day" special for the entire family. As our tribute to motherhood, a special dessert from our pastry shop will be given to all mother's on Mother's Day. For inquiries and reservations, call 818-8251, 818-0098 and 812-1010 local 511 and 512. (Makati branch) and 521-3002, 526-2739, 522-4835 local 115 (Paco branch).

Mothers Day specials at Richmonde Hotel

ON May 11, The Richmonde Hotel pays homage to all mothers, the most remarkable and important women in our lives, with a lavish luncheon buffet of all-time favorite Spanish and Filipino cuisine at.The Richmonde Grill for only P700++. Feast on appetizing Filipino specialties like *Adobong Sugpo sa Taba ng Talangka* (Prawns in Crab Fat Sauce), *Malasuge sa Bagoong at Gata* (Swordfish in Coconit Sauce) and Crispy Pata and delight in delectable Spanish dishes such as Ostras Con Espinacas (Baked Oysters with spinach), *Morcon* (Stuffed Beef Roulade) and *Estofado Rabo de Toro* (Stew Ox Tail with Vegetables). The carving table presents a savory selection of Paella Española (Savory Rice with Chorizo, chicken and seafood) and *Lechon de Leche*. All mothers dining at the grill will receive a special momento and are automatically entitled to join the raffle draw for a chance to win gift certificates from Richmonde Hotel.



From May 9 to 12, treat mom to a supreme pampering experience with Richmonde's exceptional promotional room packages starting at P2,400 ++ which includes a sumptuous buffet breakfast for two, free use of the health club facilities, such as the gym, indoor pool, steam and sauna rooms, a relaxing complimentary massage, 10 percent discount on all services at Head Zone Salon, free local calls, plus vouchers for free make-over at The Body Shop.

For further inquiries and reservations, call 638-7777 and mention "Mom" to avail at the Mother's Day package.

Mario's restaurant Mother's Day

ON Mother's Day, Mario's Restaurant is giving an appetizing treat to all mothers who will celebrate this special day at the restaurant. Aside from a wide selection of delectable dishes, a gift certificate that entitles a complimentary main course from the regional specials will also be given to all to all the mothers.

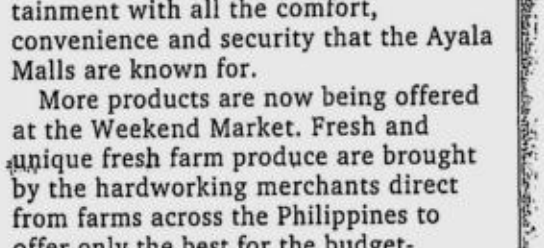
For inquiries and reservations, call outlets at Ortigas, 634-3418, 634-3420 and Quezon City 372-0369 and 415-3887.

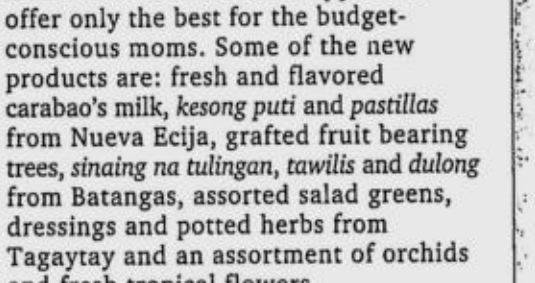
Fresh and new finds for mom at the Weekend Market

LOCATED at the grounds of the soon to open Market! Market!, the Weekend Market was organized to give the public a sneak peak of Ayala Land, Inc.'s newest development. Situated on a 9.7. hectare property along C5 road, across the International School at the Bonifacio Global City, Market! Market! is envisioned to be a regional retail hub that brings together a unique mix of retail, dining and entertainment choices for the value conscious Filipino shopper. This five-level, 1,500 square meter shopping mall, will offer the best value in shopping, dining and entertainment with all the comfort, convenience and security that the Ayala Malls are known for.

More products are now being offered at the Weekend Market. Fresh and unique fresh farm produce are brought by the hardworking merchants direct from farms across the Philippines to offer only the best for the budget-conscious moms. Some of the new products are: fresh and flavored carabao's milk, *kesong puti* and *pastillas* from Nueva Ecija, grafted fruit bearing trees, *sinaing na tulingan*, *tawilis* and *dulong* from Batangas, assorted salad greens, dressings and potted herbs from Tagaytay and an assortment of orchids and fresh tropical flowers.

Parking is not a problem and customers can conveniently shop in a very clean and spacious environment every Friday and Saturday from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. For inquiries, call 818-2241, 815-8003 local 202 and 203, 0916-3342430 or 0916-7018135.





Fresh and unique fresh farm produce are brought by the hardworking merchants direct from farms across the Philippines to offer only the best for the budget- consious moms

For Mother's Day, gifts you can't buy

By Marilyn Gardner
(taken from cs.monitor.com)

THIS is the season when newspapers feature beguiling ads with headlines trumpeting "Gifts mom loves" and "What mom really wants."

Choices – and prices – vary widely. How about a fancy watch? Lacy lingerie? Perfume and body lotion? Clothes? A crystal vase? A facial? A cellphone with 4,000 minutes a month? ("The perfect gift for mom.") A South Sea pearl necklace costing a cool $20,000? They're all available, just waiting for doting sons and daughters and husbands to make a selection, plunk down some plastic, and say, "Gift-wrap it, please."

This Sunday, when these tokens of love are unwrapped, some will be instant hits. But for many recipients, the quiet little secret of Mother's Day is this: What Mom really wants is a gift no one can buy. It needs no wrapping, carries no price tag, and is, in fact, priceless: the gift of time.

Time to read a book. Time to take a long walk. Time to play with children or savor a leisurely lunch with friends. Even time just to think – a rare commodity in a career-centered, consumer-oriented culture, where hours and days vaporize in a marathon of working and shopping.

Anne Morrow Lindbergh once described mothers as "the great vacationless class." They are, she said, "the only workers who do not have regular time off."

That observation, made nearly 50 years ago, has become even truer as women's lives have grown more complex. Even when women do get time off from the kitchen and laundry room, most never really take a break from thinking about their offspring, whether they're 6 months or 60 years old. Talk about vacationless!

For some mothers, another unwrappable gift ranks high on their wish list: a clean house. In an informal poll on the ParentsTalk website this month, half of those responding say that's what they'd most like for Mother's Day. Seventeen percent would prefer flowers, while 12 percent want jewelry.

"For Mother's Day, I would love it if my children (and husband) would clean up after themselves and do their own laundry," says a respondent named Patty. She adds, "What a blessing that would be." Husbands and children, are you listening? Actually, some children are. In a similar poll on the KidsCom website, 44 percent agree that a clean house tops their mother's wish list. "My mom would really like myself, my sisters, and my dad to help her cook dinner, clean the house, and just plain help her out," says 11-year-old Olivia. In New Zealand, 12-year-old Benjamin says his mother would like "peace and quiet from us noisy kids," plus "a good soak in the bath ... and no kids asking questions all the time."

For mothers whose nests emptied long ago, the best unwrappable Mother's Day gift might be companionship. To their far-flung children they say, simply and poignantly, "Your presence means more than any present."

In a consumer society, where attics and basements, closets and drawers bulge with a surfeit of stuff, a gift in a box can be a source of satisfaction – or clutter. As families and friends prepare to honor mothers on May 11, at least some have an opportunity to be creative. For them, there may be no better way to celebrate the day than by defying tradition, ignoring the siren call of ads, and giving the best gifts money can't buy: time, orderliness, companionship.

Christine, a Danish woman responding to the Internet poll, sums it up this way: "The simple things are the best gifts for Mother's Day – a hug, a card, flowers, and the whole family home."

Others in "the great vacationless class" just might agree.

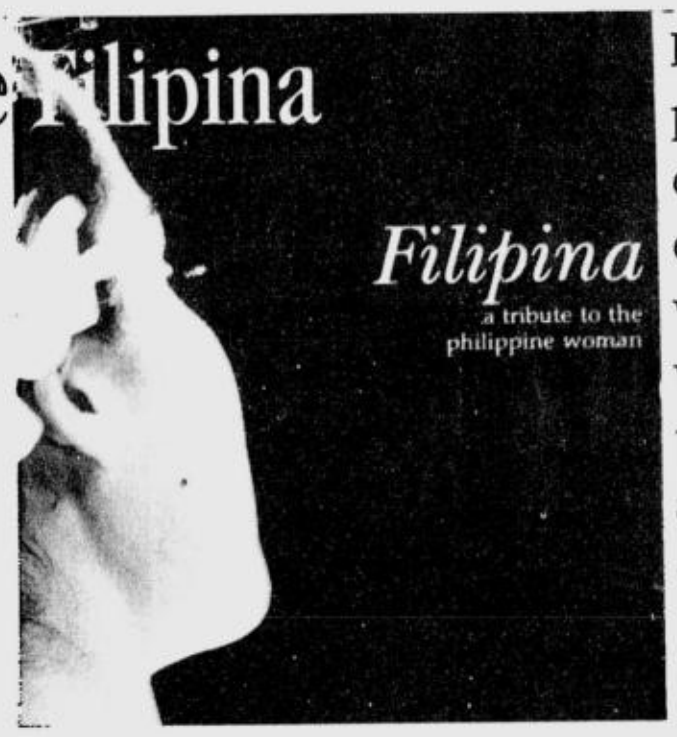
Photo contest pays tribute to the Filipina

FOLLOWING the successful publication of Philippines: The Archipelago of Smiles, and as a prelude to the publication of a new coffee-table book by the French logistics company, Supply Oilfield Services (SOS), a photo contest will be held until May 17. All winning entries will be published in the new book, Filipina – A Tribute to the Philippine Woman, and will pay homage to the beauty value, strength and importance of the Filipina on the occasion of SOS's anniversary celebration in 2004. Its chair and CEO, Louis Paul Heusaff spearheads the undertaking with the support of Her Excellency Mme Renee Veyrey of the French Embassy.

Entries shall depict the "Filipina" capturing the essence of her womanhood without limitations on her social, economic, ethnic, political or educational background. The contest is open to all individuals – professional and non-professional photographers, Filipinos and foreigners residing in the Philippines or abroad.

Submission of entries is until May 17. registration forms are available at the SOS office at 20th Floor, Pearlbank Center, 146 Valero Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City or at the Alliance Francaise, 209 Nicanor Garcia Street, Makati City. It may also be downloaded from www.sos.com.ph/filipina.

The first prize winner will win a round-trip ticket to France and $1,000, while the second prize will take home P50,000. The third prize winner, on the other hand, will have P30,000. other prizes include Nokia mobile phone units, Nilon and Olympus cameras. Supporting this endeavor are Air France, Axantis Productions Inc., Columbia Global Photo Sales Corp. and Globe Telecom.



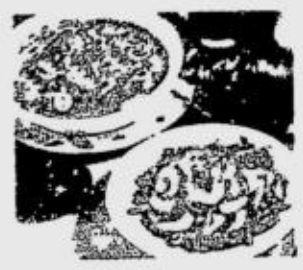
Entries shall depict the "Filipina" capturing the essence of her womanhood without limitations on her social, economic, ethnic, political or educational background

Two thumbs up for moms at Burgoo

TWO exciting and delicious dishes awaits all moms at Burgoo this month of May. At Burgoo, mothers will be treated not just one day but the whole month of May as the restaurant offers two favorite Spanish-inspired dishes for your mommy dearest namely: Callos Marinara (combination of ox tripe and ox tail seasoned with different herbs and spices, cooked with chorizo de bilbao, bacon bits, roasted red and green bell peppers, chunky tomatoes, garbanzos with parmesan cheese, olive oil and marinara sauce) and Gambas Al Ajillo (fresh tiger baby prawns sauteed in olive oil and garlic, seasoned with different herbs and spices, served on top of red and green bell peppers and fresh button mushrooms).

This is your chance to avoid the rush and the traffic, now you can treat your beloved mom anytime this month and you're assured of two great-tasting dishes your mama mia will surely like.

And on May 12, Burgoo in cooperation with Tabasco and Lea & Perrins Worcestershire Sauce is giving away specially-made aprons to all moms who order the above-mentioned dishes. Come early as they have limited supply only.



No doubt, Burgoo is the place to go on Mother's Day. It has branches at No. 310 Tomas Morato Extension, South Triangle, Diliman, Quezon City; 3rd level, Powerplant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati City; and at the 2nd level, The Podium, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City. It opens daily from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. the following day. For reservations call 927-7424, 898-1815 or 687-5254.

Give your mom some R&R with Splash Island's 'Summer Fun'

THE SPLASH Island, the county's biggest and world-class water park located at the Southwoods Ecocentrum in Biñan, Laguna has recently launched its "Summer Fun and Adventure" promo. A perfect treat for moms on Mother's Day, so that they can take that well deserved rest and relaxation.

The special offering promo which ends on June 15 features general admission of P300 on weekdays and P400 on weekends. Child and senior citizen admission is P250 during weekdays and P300 weekends and holidays.

Among Splash Island's attractions are the dos Supremos and King Pilipit, exhilarating body slides with plenty of turns and giant twisters. The Big Bam Boo, Twisted Palms and Tausug Trails offer riders on inner tubes with blood-pumping back-to-back, 360-degree turns, full circle curves and down-the-tubes dives. Magellan's Drop is a long four-level slide where riders race their way to pool level. Kids scream with delight at the Curl of the Orient, Camp Carambola and Twin Coco Knots, which are actually bay versions of the big slides. Children hankering for a river adventure will enjoy Bannakita, while Boon Docks will give them a fun-filled wilderness expedition.

The park also has Water Wahoo, an interactive kiddie pool with innovative water play activities and effects. There is the Balsa River, a lazy river some 1,200 feet long where family and friends float easy on a raft as they drift along a gently flowing river at a pave of three miles per hours.

Another group ride is the Rio Montanosa, a sensational mountain high river raft ride through giant tubes with twists and turns. An all time favorite is the Agos Grandes, a huge 30-meter wave pool with wave generators that produce four-foot high waves rolling one after the other; reminiscent of the famous California surfs. For inquiries, call 928-0507, 410-8100, 699-2320 to 22 or log on to www.splashisland.ph

Go ahead, Ma.
Hit the Paper Roses.
Leave dinner to me.

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Celebrate Mother's Day with FR's Duyan Awards

IN HONOR of the world's greatest moms, Family Reader (FR) magazine brings yet another exciting and fun-filled event for all families to look forward to. Together with Goldilocks, FR presents the much awaited Mother's Day tribute – the Duyan Awards, which is to be held on May 11, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Atrium Bldg. A. of SM Megamall, Ortigas.

Now on its 2nd year, the Duyan Awards takes in more enthusiastic activities just in time for the occasion. All participants will surely enjoy a load of surprises courtesy of FR, major sponsors Lactacyd, Henkel, SM Megamall, and other sponsors Medic, Tefal and Save Bathroom Tissue. To hype up the affair, all sponsors will initiate their own gimmicks and fun activities for the whole family starting off at 12 noon.

That's not all. There are more in store for everyone. It'll definitely be a day filled with wholesome entertainment with a merry mix of music, fashion and games. Mothers are in for sweet serenades and lively presentations from special guest performers. As an extra treat, spectators can look forward to a fashion show by Napoleon Kids.

FR's culminating activity for its Duyan Awards contest kicks-off at 4:00 p.m. with the presentation of the winning entries and their nominees. This fitting tribute to all mothers gives children and dads a chance to show their love and gratitude. They will also get a chance to bag special prizes from the event sponsors.

Don't miss this chance to nominate the special woman in your life by expressing why she deserves to be honored. She could be your very own mother, your affectionate wife or your endearing grandma. All you need to do is submit a composition or essay saying why she deserves to be honored. In 100 words or less, proudly impart the unconditional love she has blessed you with. Share the fond memories you've spent with her, heartwarming anecdotes, and short tales of genuine love from your unforgettable bonding experiences. Send or hand-deliver your entry to Family Reader Magazine, 18/F Strata 100 Bldg., Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City. You can also email your composition to fr@ivegotstyle.net or fax them to 633-4785. All entries will be judged based on originality, creativity and over-all impact.

FR, the magazine that makes shared parenting real, is published monthly by Mega Magazines and Publications Inc. (MMPI) and is available at newsstands for P95 a copy. For more details, call Arlynn Enriquez at 631-2859.

Give Mom the gift of connectivity with the Best Deals Ever from Globe

NOTHING can ever surpass the feeling of your mother's embrace, her love, acceptance and her high hopes. How do you thank mom for all the support and love she has showered you? Show her how much she means to you by giving her the gift of connectivity from Globe.

You can now keep communication lines open with mom and make the bond of love stronger by getting her the newest and most innovative handsets offered by Globe at the best discounts there could ever be.

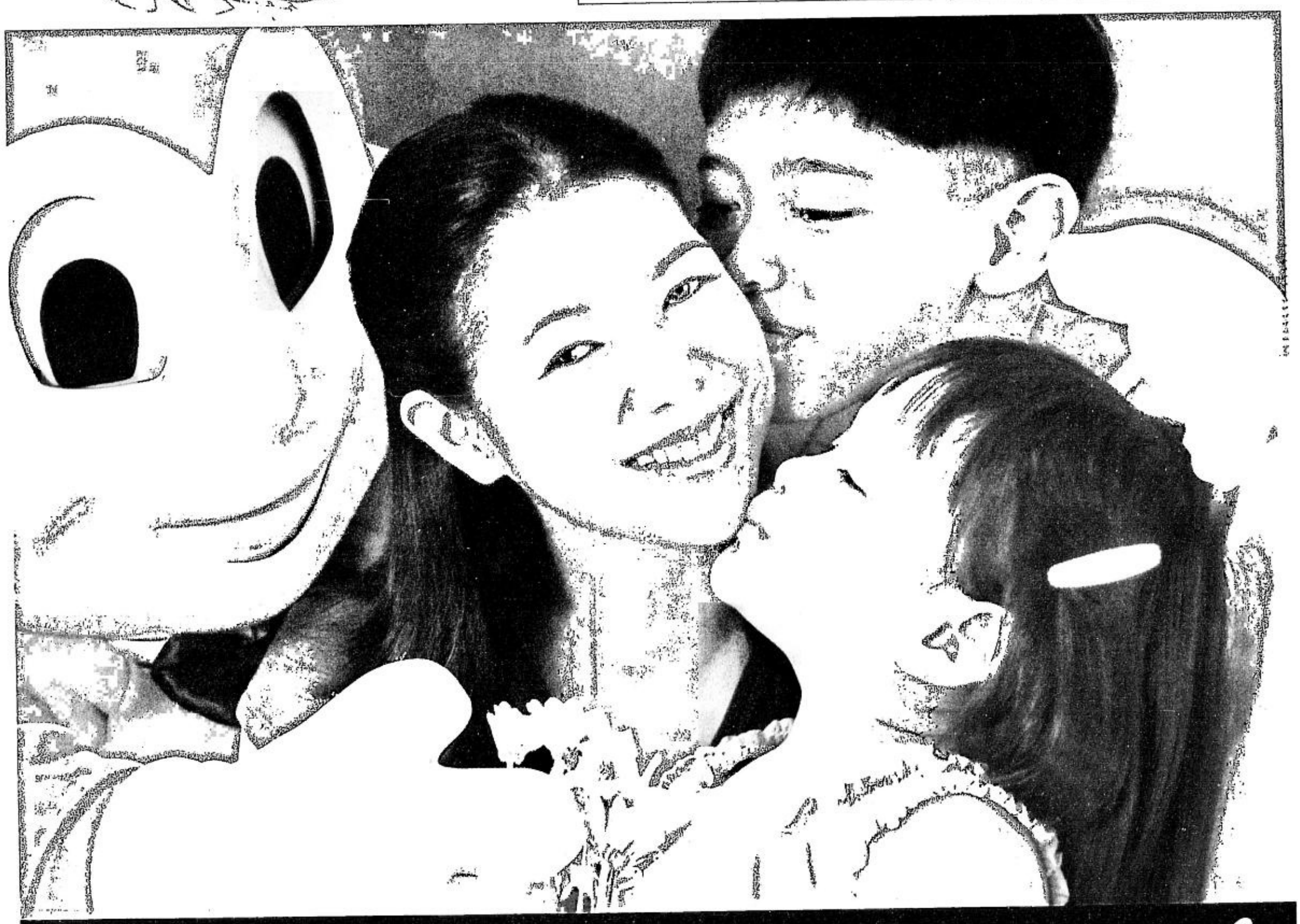
She'll surely be mesmerized by the **Nokia 6800**, which comes in a unique 2-in-1 concept as it opens up horizontally and presents a full keyboard, allowing her to type more efficiently and easily. It is also a polyphonic phone loaded with features such as SMS function, MMS capability, Email client, SynchML compatibility that allows users to synchronize their personal data remotely, GPRS and WAP enabled, has a stereo FM radio and preinstalled Java applications, aside from the standard functions available on Nokia handsets.

The **Panasonic GD88** is a unit that's full of surprises. This clamshell type colored phone is triband, has GPRS and WAP wireless connectivity, has a 16-tone polyphony feature and is EMS and MMS capable. What's delightful about this phone is the camera function that works even when the clamshell is fully closed and it also helps mom take self-portraits by positioning the phone in a way that reflects her image on the mirror-like surface just below the viewfinder. She can also customize photos with a frame similar to that of Neoprints or take pictures in sepia, monochrome or negative tones so she can carry your picture wherever she goes. This phone comes free with every G-Match family Values Plan. G-Match is Globe's newest plan which allows her 500 free minutes and 550 free text messages for only P2, 500.

If mom would like a handy handset, then the **Panasonic GD55** is the ideal present! This triband phone is only 77 x 43 x 16.9 millimeters that packs a wide range of features like handsfree speakerphone, a WAP browser, SMS and EMS messaging support, polyphonic ringtones, ringtone composer, wallpaper feature and basic organizer features. This unit dubbed as the "mini phone" has a high-resolution screen that is comfortable to read with blue-colored backlight that extends to the keypads.

To add extra love to its best deal ever, Globe makes the deal even better with more accessible offerings for each of your dream cellphones. The MMS trendsetter Nokia 3530 now comes free with a G-mix Plan while the stylish Siemens C55 is now free with a G-Talk Plan. Coveted camera accessories are now also free with the Nokia 6610 on a G-Talk Plus Plan and with Siemens S57 if you get it on a G-Max Plan. To top off these best seller deals, each G-Plan comes with a free Globe Hi-Memory SIM with 300 phonebook capacity and 65 message memory. Now, isn't this deal more endearing?

But these heartwarming offers from innovation leader Globe Handyphone won't last forever. So drop by the Globe Business Centers and the Hub from April 13 – May 31, 2003 and strengthen the bond of love with the best deals ever.



with all our love ©

Dearest Mom,
We may not always
be together but we can
surely keep in touch.
Happy Mother's Day!
Love lots,
Joy Trijm
♡ Nonni

Your choice is free on Globe's best deal ever!

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Mother's Day

Cool mom burns the race tracks

By Marlet D. Salazar

HOW COOL can you get when you have a mother who races alongside the big guys and defeats them in race tournaments?Kids Andre, Stefan, and Lorenzo Ramirez are proud to have a mother who understands the language of car racing--a sport mostly associated with men.

Menchie Francisco found herself winning one tournament after another just a few months after she was introduced to the sport (read: trouncing the big names in the car racing world). She competed against the teams of racing veterans Jojo Silverio and Mike Potenciano. And her four-wheel credentials before she was thrust into the fast lane? Driving her three boys to and from school. Francisco's conquest of car racing began after her husband, Kookie Ramirez--a car racing champion himself--prodded her to join one of the annual amateur races at the Subic International Raceway. In 1996, Francisco entered the Run What U Brung race.

It was the start of her sweet relationship with the sport, and even more quality time with her children. They are a family of car racing champions anyway.

Bonding

Racing is a family thing for Francisco. "My husband coaches me during practice," she said. Her 16-year-old son, Andre, who will soon compete in the Run What U Brung series, would record her time in races. While her two younger boys, 11 and 4, serve as cheerleaders on the sidelines during practice, and sometimes during the race. Lorenzo, the youngest, has already associated red cars with F1 legend Michael Schumacher. "I get support from my family all the time," Francisco said. "My father-in-law (racing icon Pocholo Ramirez) gives me pointers from time to time."

For Francisco, winning is a must. "The race is a very personal thing for me," she said. "For all the passion and effort that I put in it, when I get the trophy I feel very proud because I have something to show that I won." And that goes for her family too. It warms her heart when the boys show pride in what she does. Their support and belief in her count the most. That's one of the reasons Francisco prioritizes safety in her every race.

Champ

She finished fourth overall in the 1999 series of Run What U Brung. And in 2000, Francisco became the series champion and held the fastest time of the day in the February event that year. "The steps that I took is progressive for somebody who doesn't have experience in car racing," Francisco said.

After winning the Run What U Brung, Francisco, who is also an entrepreneur, moved on to the next level--the Enduro. On Nov. 25, 2000, Francisco partnered with another female racecar driver and made history. It was the first time an all-female team competed in a race in Subic. They placed third in the four-hour, 336-km Enduro race, unmindful of the sweltering heat of the afternoon sun.

Then there's the much-coveted Challenge Cup, the series she's currently competing in. In 2001, Francisco dominated the novice division intended for

COOL/P2

Ang sarap ng may nanay.

Sa iyo, Ina, lagi na lang kami ang una.
Kaya't sa araw na ito, ikaw naman ang bida.
Happy Mother's Day!

Blue Bay Tuna. Laging may sarap dahil abot-kaya.

Cool mama burns ...

From page P1

the newbies of the series. She is determined to bounce back this year after placing third overall last year.

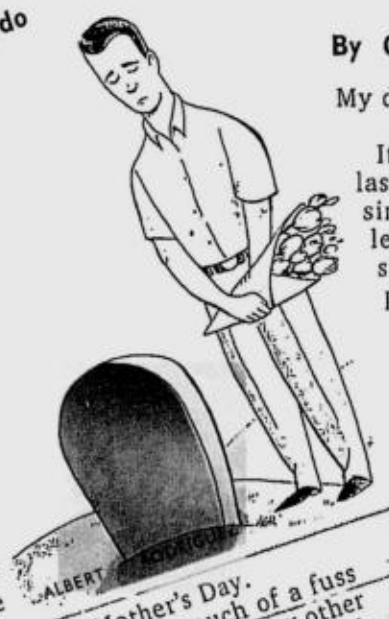
The mild-mannered Francisco finds herself competing against the big guys 95 percent of the time, ". . .and I beat them," she added. She is often caught in the middle of the men's adrenaline rush while they're all getting ready for the race. Francisco related that she would feel the pressure when their engines would practically roar in anticipation for a full-speed race. "This is the race!" she would tell herself amid all the noise the engines make.

Francisco's strong character shows during the race. "I discovered that I can be aggressive without being a man, or assume that I have to become a man to do this," she said. "We compete as persons." Francisco drives a modified (or regular) car prepared by engineers or mechanics for her Petron team. "The driver and the car is already considered a team," Francisco explained. "But there's also the mechanic or engineer and the team manager. Without them, it wouldn't be possible to race."

Away from the racetracks, Francisco is a typical mother who still brings her kids to school. A doting mom who makes sure they get everything they need. However, racing is the one thing that bonds the family more.

A Mother's Day reminder

By Alden Joshua Cedo



MY MOTHER'S loving touch will always linger in the very depths of my memories of her. Her gentle caress and sweet kisses whenever I go home to Batangas province make the grueling 3-hour commute I have to put up with worth it just to be with her.

But now she's gone, and I miss her. My mom died in a freak bus accident. She went shopping to buy us some things that we told her we always wanted. On her way home, the bus she was riding on suddenly veered out of control, and turned turtle a few times down a shallow ravine.

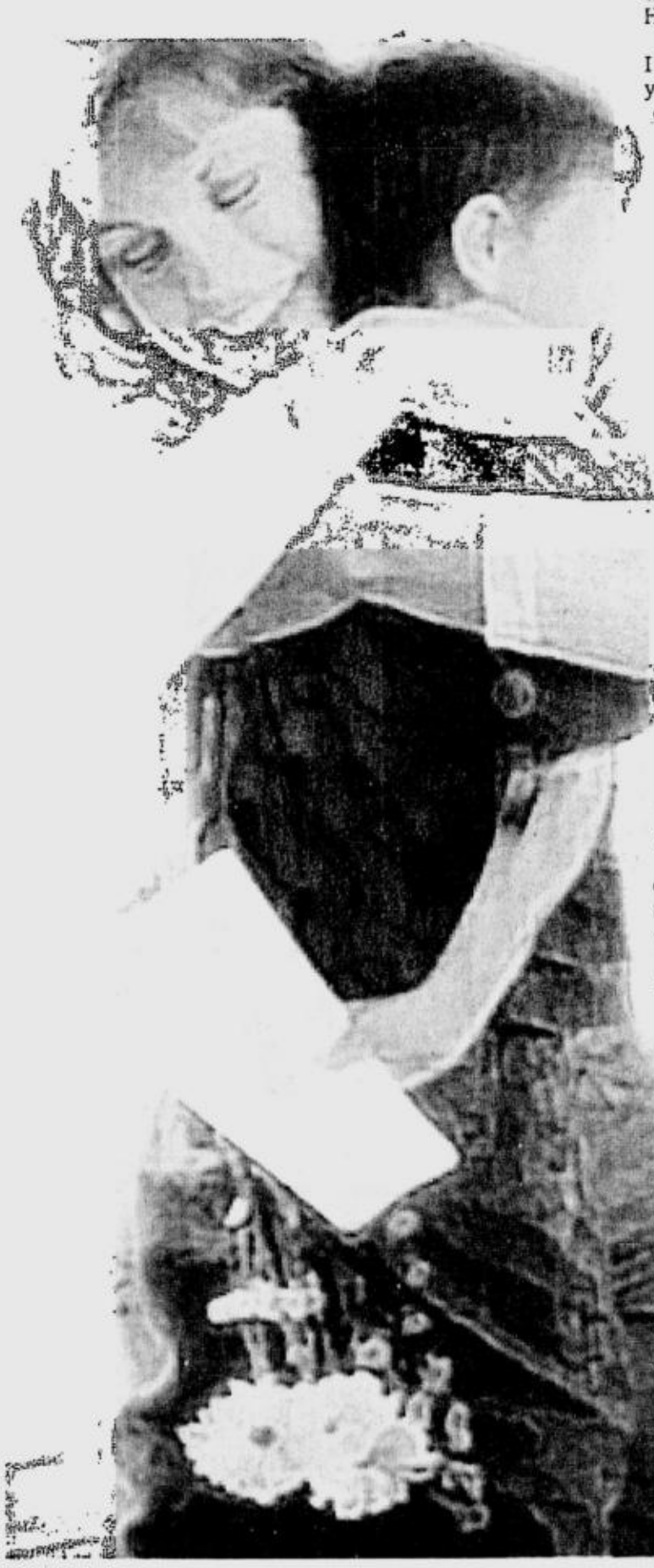
Many passengers died, my mom-included. One year has passed and there are still so many things I would have wanted to say to her, especially now that it's Mother's Day.

You see, Mother's Day for me has never been so much of a fuss when my family was still fortunate to have her. It was just any other ordinary day. The fact that I always went out on weekends to be with my friends for a drinking binge made me overlook that day specially dedicated to such fine women like her.

This Mother's Day will be very different-for-our-family-because-this is the first time that my mother will not be beside us on such an occasion. As we visit her grave, this would also be the first time that I will tell her on Mother's Day just how much I love her and how thankful we all are for her guidance, support and unconditional love.

How I wish I could still be with her, if only for the last time, just to hug her and see in her eyes the joy (and surprise) of hearing those words from me.

This Mother's Day, here's a little reminder, do yourself a favor; show your appreciation of her by greeting your mom and hugging her. Don't wait until the time comes when you'll regret not doing it. Take it from me...I know.



A Mother's Day letter that didn't end up being posted on the refrigerator door

By Carmelle B. Abad

My darling Mama,

It's been a long time since the last time I wrote you a letter. But since it's Mother's Day, it's the least that I can do. Especially since this doubles as my present, for I don't have the money to buy you one.

We don't always see eye to eye, but I know you're always there for me. The way I see it, you've always been the backbone of our family, my hero, my role model. I can't imagine myself being the good mother that you've always been to me and to my four *kuyas*. Every now and then, I look after my nephews, all as boisterous as we were when we were their age. An afternoon of babysitting them leaves me dead tired, that makes me think I won't be able to baby sit for them again for a week. And you had four boys and a girl (who's as rowdy as her brothers) to raise. We were quite a handful, and I can't help but wonder where you got the patience and strength in raising us.

We haven't been spending much time together the way we used to, considering we live under the same roof. I really miss our times together, just the two of us doing stuff. I treasure all those memories we share and I'm sure you do, too. How could you not, when I'm your only daughter?

Remember the time when I was five or six years old, when I had so many "*kuto*" in my hair? You used to make me lie on your lap and patiently try to take all those lice out of my hair, one by one. I remember having so much fun crushing (*tiris)* all the lice who became victims of my then favorite comb, the magical and deadly "*suyod*". Sometimes I would just fall asleep while we go through one of those "bloody" sessions.

Then there were the times when you hand me a pair of tweezers, and make me pull out your white hairs, then you would pay me a cent per white hair that I pull out. Sometimes I egg you into raising my "salary" to ten cents per hair. I had the time of my life pulling out your white hair one after another, thinking of all the goodies I could buy afterwards. There was even a time when you came up with a contest between me and *Kuya* – whoever gets more white hair will get extra two pesos. That was when *Kuya* first learned the art of cheating and the basics of corruption, stealing some of my hair when I'm not looking. And remember the times that you can't find me anywhere, and you would find me at our "aratilis" tree swinging like a giddy monkey in summer. I know it drove you nuts when I did that.

Thinking about all those things never fail to bring a smile on my face. And it makes me wonder why we weren't as close as we should be. Yes, we are close, but not really *that* close. Sure I can tell you some of my problems, but more often than not, only because my friends were not available. Or only after I'm done with those dilemmas. I rarely consulted you with any major problem I encountered. Not that I don't trust you. Maybe it's because of the 42-year difference in our age. Or maybe because you were so busy playing mother *and* father to us (whenever Papa's work brings him to other parts of the country or on the other side of the world, which is practically most of my life, I guess), that we didn't find the time to do some mother-daughter bonding activities. I really don't know.

Some of my friends say I'm everything you're not. And at some points, I agree with them. You're soft-spoken and so "*mahinhin*"; I'm very loud and hyper as a cat on a hot tin roof. You enjoy the comfort of a peaceful home; I love playing noisily with my brothers as we turn the living room into a wrestling arena. But there are many things I take after you, you know. Being "*iyakin*", our favorite chicken part (The juicy legs! Yum!), the color pink(?), and a lot more. And I'm pretty much pleased with that. Well, except maybe inheriting a part of your genes, particularly the ones responsible for my being so "*payat*". But not as skinny as you were when you were my age, thank God. But still, it's really hard to find my size in clothes that I really like. And it's harder to explain to those who ask me why I'm not gaining weight despite my dinosaur-like appetite. *It's the genes, guys,* I tell them, *it's the genes.* Then I spend another hour describing you in your pre-wedding figure, your sisters' vital statistics, and my brothers' pre-college built were they looked like they came straight from the *Bagets* movie (sexy shorts, sleek hair, and all that jazz).

I would do anything to bring the old days back again. Well, breeding "*kuto*" on my head is definitely not an option. Pulling your white hair is out of the question, too. I might leave you balder than Papa, and it's much easier to just dye them. I'm too old to get lost in a mall. That leaves me with my Tarzan-like capers. Hmmmn. Not bad. Not bad at all.

Mama, this Mother's Day, I would like to remind you that I may not do or say much about how much you mean to me, but if I have to live my life again, I would still choose you to be my Mama. I may call my friends' mothers "Mommy" or "Nanay", but there's no one who can take your place in my life. I'm sorry for all the disappointments I've given you, or if I make you feel like you don't matter to me at all. No promises, Mama, especially those that I can't keep. But this I tell you: when worse comes to worst, you can always count on your little girl to stand by you. I love you so much, Mama. Don't you ever forget that.

Now will you please ask Papa to plant an *aratilis* tree in our front yard?

Your *langga*,
Meng

Moms whistle their worries away with the Smart Zed WISL Person Finder

IT IS SUMMER once again and for teenagers, it is a refreshing experience as they pause from their strenuous work at school. However, summer vacations sometimes become nightmares for many parents especially mothers. Out-of-town invitations from friends or relatives pop like pimples, always building worries and concerns on the safety of their children.

Many parents have bought mobile phones to monitor their children's whereabouts. Sometimes, these phones produce more worries when the child is unable – or even worse, refuses to answer the calls or send text messages.

Calling and text messaging also produce further uncertainties because of the unavoidable pressure of using mobile phones in crowded places. Moms are paranoid with the child losing the mobile phone and people intercepting and robbing the child.

Fortunately, there is an alternative to calling and text messaging to ensure the safety of your children. A location-based service that gives the convenience of tracking loved ones through the use of mobile phones is now at your fingertips.

If you are a Smart and Talk n' Text subscriber and you want to monitor the whereabouts of your daughter Nina, for example, simply use her phone and type a message: WIS, space, Mom, space, (your number) and send to 288; authorizing you to locate her. Meanwhile, on you phone, type WIS, space, Nina, space (Nina's number), and send to 288. After these, you can now locate each other without calling or sending each other text messages.

To locate your daughter, type WIS, space, Nina, and send to 288. In seconds, you can have a message like this, "Nina is near Santrans terminal, in the vicinity of Quirino Hi-way cor Ascension Ave., Brgy. Greater Lagro, Quezon City, Metro Manila."

Location tracking through mobile phones is now creating breakthroughs in the Philippines. Recognizing parental concerns, Asian Navigation and Tracking Systems Inc. (Ants) is leading the way in developing location-based technology for the Philippine market. Ants has developed Smart Zed WISL Person finder, a location-based service that provides the advantage of tracking loved ones or friends through the use of mobile phones.

WISL – pronounced as "Whistle" stands for "Where Is Locator" allows a user to track people in any part of the country. Subscribers can actually locate family or friends through SMS or text messaging, to within the vicinity of the nearest landmark where the individual is. The precision of WISL is dependent on the number of SMART cell sites near the individual you are trying to locate. WISL is a convenient and non-intrusive alternative to calling and text messaging, particularly when your kid deliberately ignores your calls or messages.

As mothers always say, "small kids – small worries, big kids – big worries." Almost all parents have the same worry – their children equate independence with the right to go out. Mothers are anxious where their children are, who they hang out with, and when will they be back from a café, a friend's house, or a school activity.

Concerns and worries are inevitable. However, you do not always have to sit and bite your nails until you are sure that your child is sleeping tight in bed. You do not need to spend nights waiting and listening for the sound of keys and the turning knob on the door. Divert your worries on other things. Be open to possible alternatives to ease the recurring anxiety on your child's whereabouts.

WISL your worries and concerns away. Activate your Smart Zed WISL Person Finder and make your mobile phone a partner towards secure parenting.

For inquiries, you can text WISL and send to 288. You may also call the ants customer service hotline at 888-9150.

My sweet mother still listens from above

By Mylene de Jesus

IT HAS always been my Mama and me for as long as I can remember. A car accident claimed the life of my father when I was 2 and Mama was left with the task of raising me alone. She became a widow in her 30s, and never remarried. She had everything in life, she said. She had me.

Growing up alone never really bothered me. I was used to playing by myself when she was out working, but I was always happy. During my pre-school days, I remember sitting by the window of our rented room every afternoon eagerly awaiting for her return, and I would call out "Mama, Mama" at the top of my voice the moment I spotted her from down the street. I would run down the stairs two steps at a time and throw myself into her embrace. At night I would regale her with my "adventures" for the day and she listened with genuine interest. Our times together formed part of my best childhood memories and even now when life takes its toll, I find solace and comfort in those memories.

We made the transition from being mother and daughter to that of being the best of friends during my adolescent years. We would spend hours exchanging stories and laugh till our cheeks ached ached and tears of laughters streamed down our flustered cheeks. When it was time for me to "spread my wings", as it were, she trusted me and gave me the freedom to be me. She encouraged me to be the best that I could be. Yet, she was also there to welcome me back whenever I would come home "bruised, broken and hurting". She understood even the things I was trying to say but could not.

Through the years I saw the many sacrifices she had to endure for my sake. It pained me to see her work so hard so she could send me to school. I repaid her by striving to be the best. Every time she pinned a medal on me I noticed the tears glistening in her eyes. Tears she always tried to hold back. Only after I graduated from college and handed her my diploma did she finally let the dam break. "Tears of joy", she told me. We both cried.

When I found myself a job, I vowed to give her the little luxuries which I knew she had foregone in the course of raising me. I showered her with gifts. She would scold me for my little extravagances, but I could see the happiness in her eyes. We watched movies together. I took her to concerts. We had the best time of our lives. I asked her about her favorite places and promised to take her there. I knew in my heart the two of us would always be together.

But fate can play cruel games. In

SWEET/P8

1996, Mama was diagnosed with the debilitating Parkinson's disease. I was stunned. I had heard of the illness but was not prepared to deal with it. The change in her did not happen overnight. Little by little the disease robbed Mama of her motor ability. Her once quick reflexes slowed down. Soon she became too weak to walk on her own and became wheelchair-bound. Her hands shook uncontrollably, so I had to spoonfeed her. Her speech slurred. Our struggle with the disease broke my heart.

The weeks and months that followed were a series of trips to and from the hospital. It felt as if I was in the middle of a nightmare--a nightmare I could not wake from. I tried to keep a brave face during this time. I had no one to turn to. Mama needed me, but I needed her as much to keep me going. I forced myself to keep a cheerful disposition when I was with her. We would still have our

What's for dinner, mom?

EVERY second Sunday of May is a special day for moms around the world – it's Mother's Day!

As a special gift to all the moms out there San Miguel - Purefoods has come up with an ultra-special treat for moms this year! Moms get a practical helping hand with the newest product in the market Purefoods Carne Norte Guisado con Patatas.

But Moms Day or not, our heroines still have to prepare the family dinner at the end of the day. Believe me, the supper hour can be one of the most hectic times of the family's day. Working parents are just about to come home from heavy traffic. Stay-at-home parents are seeking much-deserved relief from being with the kids and doing housework all day.

Dinner preparations are enough to make you a nervous wreck.

So should we junk family dinner altogether? No way!

Studies show that children who eat with their families are better nourished than children who eat alone. Besides, the dinner table is a place where families gather and spend quality time. However, by planning ahead and establishing routines, mothers can actually make mealtime less frantic and enjoy the time with their families more. Purefoods Carne Norte Guisado con Patatas offers the following tips:

1. *Give yourself a breather*. Allow some time to adjust and gather your bearings. Everyone needs some time to mentally switch from the day's activities to the evening schedule.

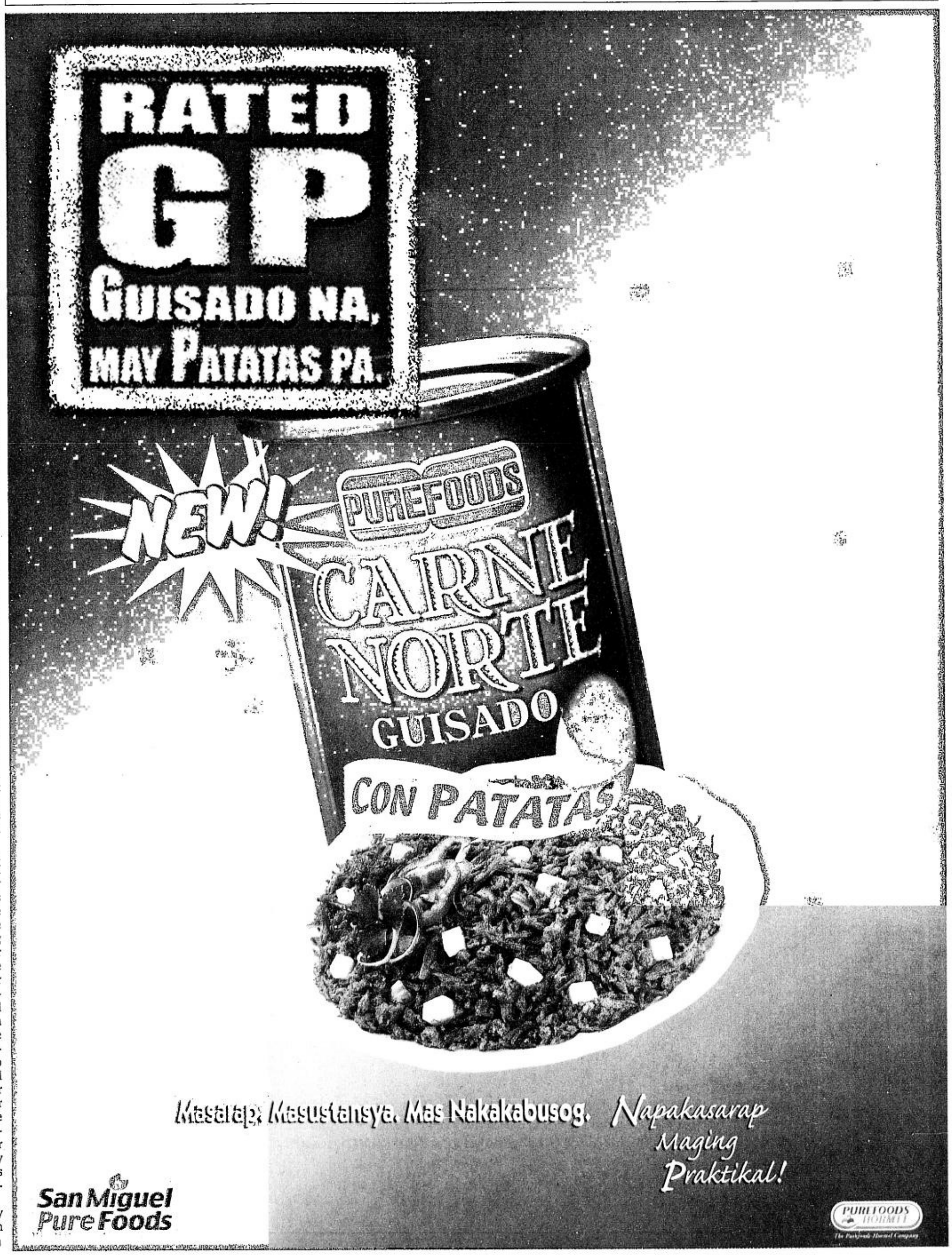
2. *Avoid the last minute frenzy of deciding what to cook*. You can also involve your kids in the meal planning and shopping. Make sure that you keep a stock of practical quick and easy-to-prepare meals such as Purefoods Carne Norte Guisado con Patatas in your pantry at all times. You don't need to get all harassed thinking of the potatoes, tomatoes and other stuff that you have to peel and cut. It's a ready-to-heat preparation that gives you the nutritional value you want for your family in a jiffy!

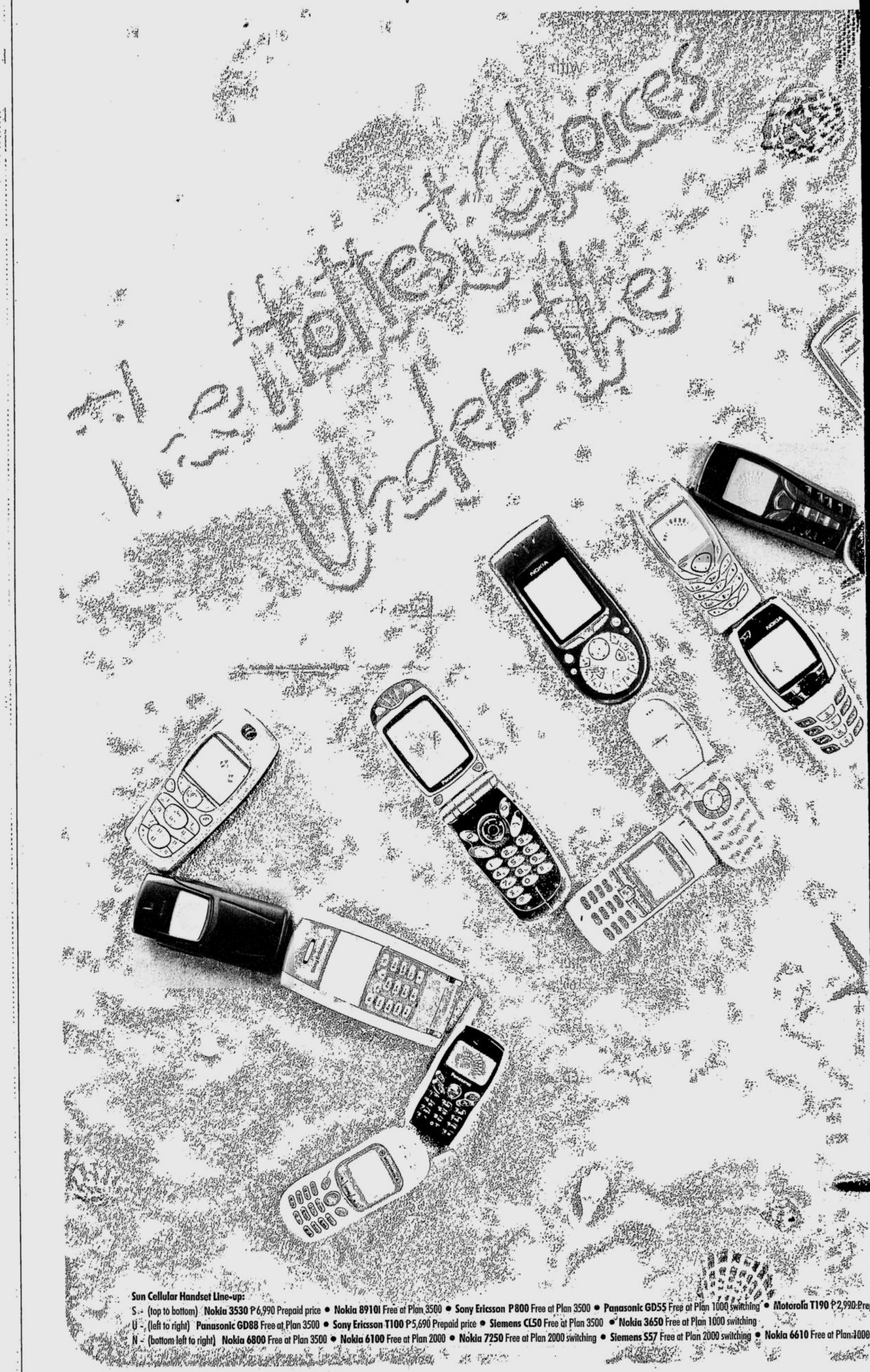
3. *Make dinner a family affair*. Kids can do little things that can free you of some of the work. They can set the table, toss the salad and stir mixtures. It could be a little messier in the long run, but then cleaning up can be another family bonding activity too!

4. *Prepare your shopping list and menu simultaneously*. Once each week sit down with a pad paper, cookbooks, recipes and pen and prepare your shopping list and menu simultaneously. It's not necessary to write every meal. Breakfasts and lunch are generally not "planned" meals but cooking for dinner will be a breeze if you don't spend 15 minutes running from the pantry to the refrigerator and back to the pantry trying to come up with a meal for the evening.

5. *Reduce your time in the grocery*. Grocery and meal planning pays benefits too by reducing your time in the grocery. You will not have to "plan as you go" and wander around hoping you got it all. Having a list also cuts your extra expenses by allowing you to buy only what is needed.

Being a mom has its perks and challenges. But if you are creative yet practical in your meal planning, every meal shared with the family should be a wonderful experience!





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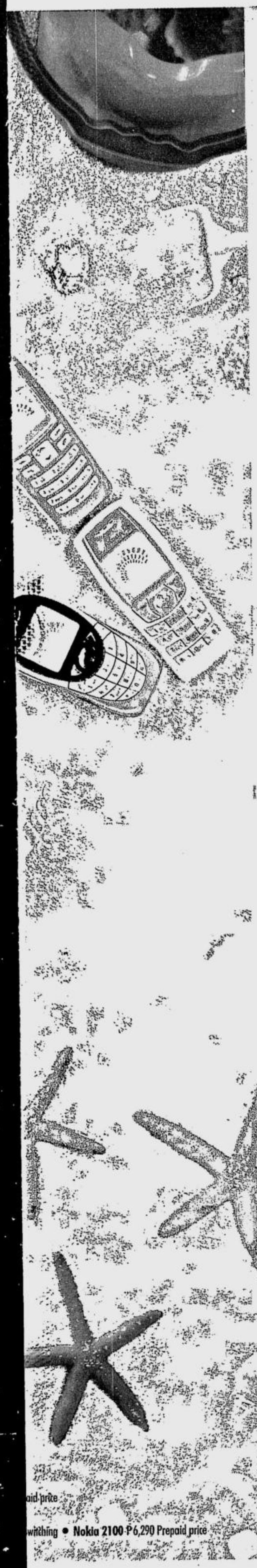

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		Plan 250	Plan 1000	Plan 2000	Plan 3500	Plan 250	Plan 1000	Plan 2000	Plan 3500
Panasonic GD88	24,490	23,000	19,000	7,500	FREE	20,750	16,500	FREE	FREE
Nokia 7250	22,990	21,000	13,000	5,000	FREE	18,750	9,000	FREE	FREE
Sony Ericsson P800	34,990	32,750	25,000	18,000	FREE	30,500	21,000	12,000	FREE
Nokia 8910i	34,990	31,500	22,000	15,000	FREE	29,000	18,000	9,000	FREE
Nokia 3530	6,990	3,500	FREE	FREE	FREE	3,500	FREE	FREE	FREE
Panasonic GD55	7,290	4,500	2,250	FREE	FREE	2,750	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 3650	25,490	18,850	4,000	FREE	FREE	17,500	FREE	FREE	FREE
Siemens S57	18,790	17,250	14,500	7,500	FREE	14,500	11,000	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6610	20,790	16,000	3,000	FREE	FREE	15,000	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 2100	6,290	1,750	FREE	FREE	FREE	500	FREE	FREE	FREE
Motorola T190	2,990	1,250	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
Sony Ericsson T100	5,690	2,000	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE	FREE
Sony Ericsson T200	7,290	5,000	2,750	750	FREE	2,750	1,750	FREE	FREE
Nokia 3510	5,090	2,750	FREE	FREE	FREE	2,750	FREE	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6100	22,990	19,000	14,500	FREE	FREE	18,000	6,500	FREE	FREE
Nokia 6800	22,090	19,000	10,000	4,000	FREE	18,500	9,250	3,000	FREE
Siemens CL50	15,990	14,500	11,500	10,000	FREE	12,000	9,750	7,750	FREE

Prices reflect 24-month holding period, 12-month pricing available upon inquiry.

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		250	1000	2000	3500
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Voice Calls Local					
• Sun to Sun	₱5.00	₱5.00	₱4.50	₱4.00	₱4.00
• Sun to other mobiles	₱6.00	₱6.00	₱5.50	₱5.00	₱5.00
• Sun to Landline	₱6.00	₱6.00	₱5.50	₱5.00	₱5.00
NDD	₱9.50	₱9.50	₱9.00	₱8.50	₱8.50
IDD	$0.30	$0.30	$0.30	$0.30	$0.30
Text Messages					
• Sun to Sun	₱1.00	₱1.00	₱1.00	₱1.00	₱1.00
• Sun to other mobiles	₱1.00	₱1.00	₱1.00	₱1.00	₱1.00
International Text	₱10.00	₱10.00	₱10.00	₱10.00	₱10.00

i-TEXT Plan	PREPAID	POSTPAID			
		250	1000	2000	3500
Free Text	100	300	700	1000	1750
Voice Calls Local					
• Sun to Sun	₱6.00	₱6.00	₱5.50	₱5.00	₱5.00
• Sun to other mobiles	₱6.50	₱6.50	₱6.00	₱5.50	₱5.50
• Sun to Landline	₱6.50	₱6.50	₱6.00	₱5.50	₱5.50
NDD	₱10.00	₱10.00	₱9.50	₱9.00	₱9.00
IDD	$0.30	$0.30	$0.30	$0.30	$0.30
Text Messages					
• Sun to Sun	₱0.50	₱0.50	₱0.50	₱0.50	₱0.50
• Sun to other mobiles	₱1.00	₱1.00	₱1.00	₱1.00	₱1.00
International Text	₱9.00	₱9.00	₱9.00	₱9.00	₱9.00

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Three mothers, and something in common

By Roselle C. Tenefrancia

PICTURE this: A jetsetter mom, flying PAL, Gulf Air or Cathay Pacific, who has three former flight attendants in her family. A mom who says she has never been keen on lawyers (and she probably hates them too) but has two top-notch lawyers in her family now, and probably one more coming up. And a mom with two recording artists in the alternative music industry, both singing lead in two separate bands.

Three mothers who have something in common: they have two or more children who work in the same industry or in the same profession. What is it like for them, raising children who grew up seemingly not having any common interests but are suddenly in the same profession, albeit not in the same office or group? Not an unusual circumstance really, that's for sure, but it is interesting to listen to their stories about their children who are the same, but at the same time still uniquely different from each other.

Growing up differently...

Most mothers, if not all, will tell stories of how their children were like growing up. For our three moms, it was apparent that their children grew up with different personalities. For "jetsetter" and homemaker mom Evangeline Abelardo, who has three former flight attendants in the family, it was never in her dreams that her children wanted to fly or to travel. "They grew up in the

province, where we all thought that being a stewardess or traveling was only for the rich and gorgeous Manila girls," she recalls. Juliet, the first one who entered the airline industry as a flight attendant in PAL in the late '80s, graduated with a business degree. She was the "glamorous" one who loved keeping herself pretty. Susan, the second daughter who became a flight attendant for Gulf Air, seemed a little different. She definitely had the height, but she was not as strong-willed and courageous as her elder sister.

Eden, the third daughter, was a registered nurse, whom everyone thought was not really tailor-made for flying, as she would threaten to resign from Cathay Pacific every year.

It was quite similar for our self-confessed "lawyer-hater" and PhD mother Crescencia Chan-Gonzaga, mother of three, two of whom are lawyers. (Of course she does not really hate lawyers!) JV, her eldest, she recounts, always had his life planned ahead of him.

As young as Grade 4, JV already wanted to become an "ambassador". And he was advised that taking up law would be the best way to become one. And he did become a lawyer, as planned, graduating with honors and a special academic award. On the other hand, Maita was the free- spirited one. In Mama Crescencia's words, "Maita, well...she has always been the type who just made things happen," which Maita jokingly interprets as her mother's nice way of saying, "I'm aimless." And being aimless was an understatement, as Maita even ended up in fourth place in last year's bar exams.

Somehow it was quite different for Milagros Dancel, mother of Vinfred and Ebe Dancel of Twisted Halo and Sugarfree (and now also Kambyo), respectively. She says that since her husband used to be assigned to different branches of DBP all over the country, they had to move a lot while her brood of 6 children were growing up. Among the siblings only Vinfred and Ebe were sort of left on their own during their respective high school years, as the rest of the family moved about. They grew up similarly in that there was a time Vinfred and Ebe were not with their family, and thus had an early taste of independence. However, while Vinfred while in his tender years already told Mama Mila that he wanted to be a lawyer, Ebe was the one who had always shown more interest in music and performing.

...And ending up the same

Yet somehow, maybe destiny or influence may have had a part in the way these siblings chose the path to their careers.

"As much as Maita is different from her elder brother JV, I know that deep inside, she idolizes her brother," admits Mama Crescencia. "I wanted Maita to be in education, like me, but I don't know why she took up law after college." It was clear to her why JV wanted to become a lawyer, but it wasn't so clear why Maita wanted to be.

The same is true with the three daughters of Mama Vangie. Juliet was always the headstrong and "glamorous" one. As for the two, Susan and Eden, it was different. "But it was maybe because of the stories that Juliet told us whenever she would come home," explains Mama Vangie, "that influenced both Susan and Eden." It seemed that Juliet was having fun as well as enjoying the good pay as well. She encouraged her sisters to do the same. "It was a blessing too for the whole family, because the three of them were able to help support their younger siblings to finish their education."

Mama Mila says that Vinfred and Ebe grew up separately but had established their own bands at the same time: Vinfred was in Baguio to finish up his law school and Ebe was in the University of the Philippines finishing up his Creative Writing course. "My husband wanted Ebe to take a more conventional course even after college, but Ebe insisted on being in a musical rock band as a career, with Sugar Free.

As for Vinfred, although he passed the bar and worked for an NGO, he was adamant in keeping Twisted Halo performing, even against his father's words." Professional rivalries?

"No, I never noticed any rivalry between any of them." The same sentiments from our three mothers.

"In fact, it was enjoyable to have three of them share their stories and anecdotes about flying and about passengers, during our family reunions," exclaims Mama Vangie. "We learned a lot from them, and I know that they helped each other too."

"I never noticed any argument between them when it comes to law," says Mama Crescencia of JV and Maita. In fact, Maita admits that when it comes to law, she concedes to her elder brother. "My youngest son, IJ, seems like the one who would argue his way out most of the time, but not Maita with JV," she says with certainty.

"I think it was Vinfred who has shown much support and encouragement to Ebe when he was still starting. Until now, Vinfred and wife, Kris (who incidentally also performs for two famous bands), have shown support and have even helped Ebe look for a good guitar for him," narrates Mama Mila. "I don't see or feel any tension or competition between them."

Still their mother's children

What is noticeable among our mothers here is that they say that it really doesn't matter to them what profession their children get into. Any profession is good as any other.

Well, perhaps, not entirely, though.

There are certainly perks to having more than one child in the airline industry. Mama Vangie and her husband got to travel to more countries as the three airlines traveled to different countries, without spending much, even though her only dream then was to provide the best education for all her children (which both she and her husband proudly realized). "All I really thought was important for the three of them, as well as for my other children, was their safety and the unconditional support that I have given them in their decisions ever since they were young. Although I do have to admit that I did offer more than double the prayers for my three daughter's safety."

As for having two lawyers, it certainly makes Mama Crescencia a proud mother to see her children achieve so much academically, being in the academe herself all her life. Even her youngest son seems to be "lawyerly" and maybe has the makings of a lawyer, too, someday.

"Both JV and Maita were similar in the sense that they were achievers, as is my youngest son. Perhaps it was because of the discipline that I have imposed on them while they were all growing up."

The only thing for Mama Mila is that she continues to hope and pray that both Vinfred and Ebe will make a secure future for themselves and their families. "I am not so worried about Vinfred because he is a lawyer. With Ebe, of course, both my husband and I get concerned about him getting a more stable career someday. Otherwise, it makes us really proud that they have started to carve a name for themselves in the industry they went into," proudly says Mama Mila.

But concededly, all mothers, however great their children are, or however lucky, will always see their children as that--their children. In the end, it really doesn't matter that they are in the same profession, or they are not. What matters is that wherever they may go, the discipline that their mothers have taught them, the prayers, and the support given them when they were growing up until the present, would always have some bearing in their decisions. This, in sum, echoes the words of Mama Crescencia, Mama Vangie and Mama Mila.

A not so usual Mother's Day gift

A MOTHER'S work is never done. From the moment she gets out of bed, it's all about her family, denying herself that much needed rest just to make sure that her family has all the comforts of home.

This Mother's Day, the mommy is the star and deserves merit for her untiring work, but it is also a fact that being a mother especially to little tykes, the smiles on her kids' faces plus their tight hugs are enough of a reward for her, when she sees that she has made them happy by simply cooking their favorite dish, treating them out, or buying them a toy that they want.

Why don't you give her that reward (the smile on her children's faces)? She could be your mom who still have your little brother or sister to attend to; or your wife who takes care of your very energetic little kids, while at the same time keeping the house from looking like a disaster area. Her face will surely light up this Mother's Day when she discovers that you gave her precious little ones toys that will make any kid flash his/her pearly whites, which is a sight to behold for any mom. And let her take the credit for those gifts as well, she deserves it.

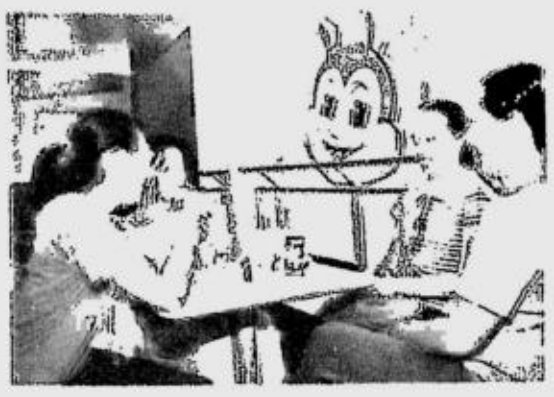
Now, that you know what to give the world's greatest mom, the only problem now is where to buy the toys. For some, it can be a very exhausting experience scouting from one toy store to another because of its limited toy line. That used to be a problem, but with Chicco, you need not go hopping from one toy store to the next, what with its complete line of toy products and children's accessories ranging from pre-natal and up, it's definitely a one stop shop just for kids. Chicco has 5 branches, the biggest is at The Podium, others are at Glorietta, SM Megamall, Festival Mall, and SM North Edsa.

So for Mother's Day, deviate from the old bouquet of flowers, box of chocolates and greeting card stint, out-do yourself and think like a mom, when you do, you'll know where her priorities lie – her children.

The "Buhay Imnggo" at Jollibee

THE PLACE is packed with people lining up at the counters. There are children running around. People are busy in their respective tables. Yet, the atmosphere is filled with laughter and *langhap-sarap* goodness. This is Jollibee on a typical Sunday, a day that most kids long for. Whether they go to church, hold a reunion, or simply like to savor the air of Sunday togetherness, families would include trooping to the nearest Jollibee store a part of their family day.

On top of a family's list of Sunday activities would be attending church. After the mass, many Filipino families go straight to a Jollibee store. With kids craving for Jollibee, parents agree to their children's choice of food. This is a common circumstance to most parents. One parent recounted, "*Iyon talaga ang gusto ng mga bata.* Jollibee *daw. Gustong-gusto pa nila maglaro doon. Kami ding mag-asawa,* Jollibee *din ang hilig namin. Ako paborito ko ang Palabok Fiesta kasi talagang lutong Pinoy ito. Maliban sa pagkain, masayang-masaya sa* Jollibee *pag Linggo, kaya* enjoy *talaga kaming mag-pamilya..*"



While Filipinos at home come together on a Sunday, Filipinos abroad find this free day to be with other fellow Filipinos. Being in another country, the Martinez family found solace from homesickness through interaction with the Filipino community or through anything that would remind them of home. Jun Martinez remembered the time when they located a Jollibee store in Hong Kong, "What a joy it was for us! We thought, 'at long last we can have a flavor of something Filipino' because we really enjoy the Spaghetti Special with its sweet and *malinamnam* taste and the Chickenjoy with its crispy skin and juicy meat. This taste caters to our Filipino liking of a combination of something sweet and sour. For us, that is something superior over other international brands. That is why we proudly claim Jollibee as a Filipino accomplishment in the international market."

In provinces and sub-urban areas where there are less frenzy compared to metropolitan areas like Manila, people take pleasure of an unhurried and leisurely pace of life. Sundays are regarded not only as a time of getting together as a family or visiting friends, but also for going to an excursion or outing. Kids look forward to such excursions especially when they are spent in resorts, parks, malls or restaurants. Fact is, Jollibee makes it to the list of these places to go where kids can enjoy a wide array of their favorite meal and the playland.

Hazyl Amellos, 10 years old, loves to spend her Sunday with her parents, older sister, and cousins. Whenever they go watch a movie or just take a joy ride around the city, they would never forego eating out. Hazyl would insist on going to Jollibee where other kids dine with their family. She recalls one moment when she and her cousins went to eat at Jollibee. "It was like a picnic. My *ate* placed all the food on the table and we shared all the food. *Tapos, 'yong* cousin *namin, si Kuya Jan-Jan,* he wanted to eat everything *dahil* favorite daw niya ang Spaghetti Special and Chickenjoy. *Masaya talaga kasi marami ding* kids *doon,*" Hazyl giggled.

But in Manila where most of the hustle and bustle takes

place Jollibee stores are crowded with shoppers who spend Sundays going to the malls. Jollibee SM Mega Level 3 Marketing Officer Rico Lapore concurred, "Our usual Sunday crowd are families who flock to the mall to cool off. Our store would typically be jam-packed on this particular day."

Aside from families, most of the Jollibee patrons are friends or *barkadas* who make the store their meeting place. Groups who hang out in Jollibee range from teenagers to adults. There are many reasons why they would choose Jollibee for their mini-reunion. It would be because of the food, the ambiance, or the proximity of the store. But for Emily Docayla, 28 years old, "*Pag sinabi mo kasing 'magkita tayo sa* Jollibee' *hindi na mahirap maghanap kasi alam na kaagad. Tapos, iba-iba pa kayo ng hilig. E, pag sa Jollibee, andon na lahat, di mahirap pumili ng pagkain. Minsan, pag sa* food court, *ikot kami nang ikot pero ang labas namin sa* Jollibee *din kasi alam na namin ang lasa. At saka, sanay na talaga kami na sa* Jollibee *nagkikita.*"

So, either it's a family affair or a weekend off with the *barkada*, Jollibee surely has a spot for you to have a fun-filled Sunday and enjoy the "Feeling Jollibee... walang kasing sarap."

Treats for Moms

HOW WELL do you know your mom? Are you close enough to know even the minutest detail about her pet peeves or favorites? What music or wine does she prefer? What's her idea of the finer things in life?

Yet, even if you really know your mom inside out, giving her a present on special occasions like Mother's Day can still test your patience, creativity and resourcefulness. The dilemma is equal to giving on her birthday or Christmas Day.

Now, you need not be clueless if you know where to go for the best treats for mom. Here are some suggestions from new shops and unique stores at Festival Supermall in Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang for your type of mom:

GREEN IS IN
Green prints for blouse (549) and long skirt (P749) from Folded and Hung is a visual knockout.

Health and beauty-conscious

For busy moms, a day of pampering at a spa or a beauty treatment should be a welcome respite. You can take her to *Ageless*, the first certified anti-aging center in the country (American Academy of Anti-Aging Research). Lead by a trained medical team, it offers a wide array of massage (P400-P700), facial ((P220-P900) and skin rejuvenation (P1,600-P3,500) treatments, dermatological consultations (P1,000-P5,000), cosmetic surgery, body whitening (P500-P2,000), hand and foot care (P100-500), and "painless" treatments (P2,000-P10,000).

Artist-in-residence

If your mom takes pleasure in Asian decorative pieces, religious icons, antiques and other unique works of art, then *Terra Cotti* will give her a natural high. Among its many unique items sourced from Thailand are pillow cases with tussels or elephant designs in silk or beaded (P200-P300), and a whole set of figures of Thai musicians (P6,500). Icons like the ones of Our Lady of Manaoag (P800-P3,000) are also available.

Fashionista on the loose

For the ones with good fashion taste, take note of *Folded & Hung's* long sleeves orange striped polo blouse (P699) and white slacks (P899), matched by a necklace with heart capiz pendant (P245). Its green prints for blouse (P549) and long skirt (P749) is a visual knockout. How about its orange striped spaghetti blouse (P599) and tan capri cargo pants (P899) with white necklace (P295) and tan bracelet (195)?

Home is where her heart is

She'll definitely feel at home with items from *The Barnyard*. Burner oil (P325) in vanilla and rosemary, among other scents, will smell fine in her room. A bag of coffebean (P25) in a basket (P360) can perk her up. Hampers made out of local wood and dried grass (P3,000 each) are a steal. Surprise her with this bath cabinet

BAG IT UP
Stylish red bag (P1,295) from Tokyo Fashion

(P6,000), a 6-in-1 picture frame with easel (P1,500), a 3-plate candelabra (P1,000), a panoramic frame (P800), a lucille frame (P600) and natural bath soaps (P75).

When mommy is a foodie

When she loves cooking at home as much as eating out, take her to a well-kept secret called *Vietnamese Deli*. Let her indulge in seafood and vegetables cooked the Vietnamese way. You can also bake her a special cake and place this silver plated cake and knife set (P425) from Italy at *Oceanic 1911*.

Jewelry like second skin

If fine jewelry seems like second skin to her and you can very well afford it, check out this ring, earring, and pendant set made out of colored freshwater pearl with diamonds (P45,000) and 8 pointers rositas set (P181,000) from *Siuvoni Collections*.

You can also try this two tone necklace (P32,300) from *Orodiam*.

Party diva

When her social calendar is full everytime, mom will need more stylish clothes without spending too much.

At *Tokyo Fashion*, this tube blouse

IT'S GOT TO BE PAINLESS OR ELSE
To remove facial scars and pigmentations or even erase wrinkles without pain (P2,000 to P10,000) take your mom to Ageless, the first certified anti-aging center in the country, at Level 4 of Festival Supermall.

with red, white and black prints (P895) and a long black skirt (P1,195) is tasteful enough. Or she can rub elbows in this fuschia floral blouse (P495) and straight cut black pants (P1,195). Complement these with a stylish red bag (P1,295) and a pair of casual lemonade sandals (P2,250) from *Shoe Salon*.

For classic elegance, try the style and comfort of wearing *Parfait's* copper dress (P798) and beige spheres blouse (P528) and kyanite pants (P858).

Collect and collect

Glasses from Murano are adored all over the world for their sheer elegance. *Oceanic 1911* offers these rectangular plates (P3,750), ash trays and frames (P1,800-P3,750),

COOL SANDALS
A pair of casual lemonade sandals (P2,250) from Shoe Salon.

WHEN MOMMY IS A FOODIE
If she loves cooking at home as much as eating out, take her to a well-kept secret called Vietnamese Deli where she can indulge in seafood and vegetables cooked, well, the Vietnamese way.

and plates with tomeo vase (P4,500). From *Enchanted Garden*, this figurine of mother and child angels in cream and gold (P679.75) is stand out.

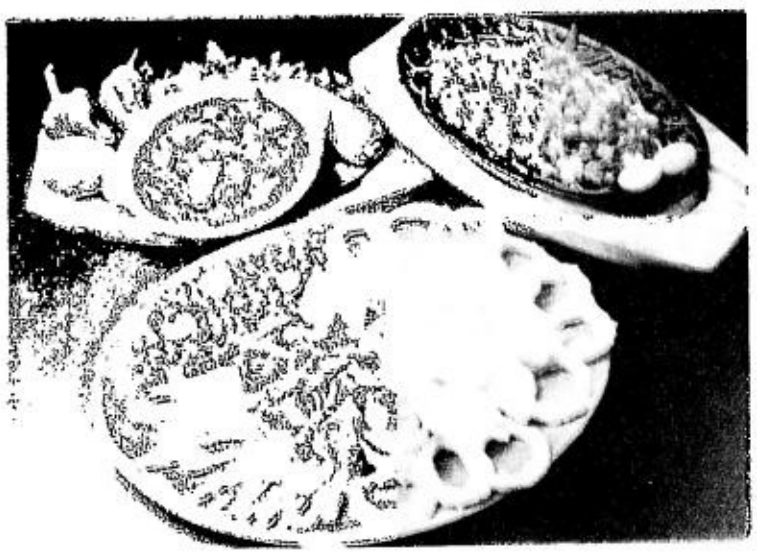
For more information, please call Customer Service at 850-3514 or visit *www.festivalsupermall.com*. Festival Supermall is the largest shopping, dining and entertainment complex in Southern Metro Manila with over 400 specialty stores and restaurants.

Chateau 1771 and Portico 1771 pay tribute to mothers

ON THE occasion of Mother's Day weekend from May 11, Chateau 1771 Ortigas and Portico 1771 Malate will treat all mothers to a culinary adventure. Mother's will discover 1771's delicious policy of the finest ingredients; exquisite service and the technique that crosses over from East to West and back in all signature dishes. All mothers who celebrate in Chateau and Portico will get to bring home a special recipe box with 3 original 1771 recipes inside. What's more, one lucky mom from Chateau 1771 and another special mom from Portico 1771 will receive a precious South Sea Pearl pendant courtesy of Jewelmer when they dine during the weekend. Indeed, it is a fitting tribute by Chateau 1771 and Portico 1771 to these very special women. For early reservations at Chateau 1771, call 631-7340. For Portico 1771, call 523-2063. Portico 1771 is located at 1771 M. Adriatico St. Malate Manila. Chateau 1771 is located at El Pueblo Real de Manila ADB Ave. cor. J. Vargas Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

Hip Mom, you should go Kroco Loco @ Krocodile Grille

A DINNER at Krocodile Grille, a most hip restaurant found in the most hip places (Libis, Jupiter and 3rd Level of Greenbelt 3), may just be an ample recommendation to a one-of-a-kind night out as a treat your mother.



For one, she will definitely enjoy the youthful ambiance and the platefuls of servings and other stuff that goes with the plate.

Stuff yourself with all the great tasting kroc treats and wind down on Heyday Friday. Krocodile Grille will serve it up and they'll even chop off 15 percent on your total food bill.

In the mood for alcopops or RTD's? Indulge yourself at Krocodile Grille's Saturday Pop Fever and get 15 percent off on the bottle.

And your Sundays will definitely sizzle for Krocodile Grille is giving you its famous Sisig treat at half the price.

For reservations, please call 637 6839 (Libis, Quezon City), 896 2122 (Jupiter St., Makati City) and 7574778 (Greenbelt 3).

My sweet mother still listens . . .

From page P3

conversations, albeit I was the one who talked and she, like when I was a kid, listened with genuine interest. She would still laugh at my jokes, but the sadness grew in her eyes. I would sing her favorite songs and she would hum along with the melody. I couldn't get past the chorus without my voice breaking, so I had to stop and tell her I forgot the lyrics. I lied, of course. I didn't want her to sing with me. I wanted her to take me in her arms, the way she always did whenever I was afraid of something. And I was terrified at the prospect of losing her.

In the comfort of my room, I would cry myself to sleep. The world we built together was crumbling down, and I was powerless to stop it. For countless days and nights I implored the help of God and all the saints in heaven for her recovery. My faith was the only thing that kept me going. Mama, in her pain and torment never complained. She suffered in silence. She never cried, at least not when I was around. But one day, not knowing I was in the room, she cried in pain. It was more than I can bear, I cannot remember how long I stayed in the bathroom, crying.

All my life I had never been separated from her. But in January 1996 Mama left me for the first time. She was in tears as she boarded the bus that would take her to the province. I tried hard to smile and keep myself from crying. I waved at her from the street where she looked at me from her window seat. I stood there for a long time, even as the dust from the bus settled. When the bus was out of sight, I cried. I never felt so alone.

On the tenth of June the following year, Mama "left" me again. But this time there were no goodbyes. I was not even aware she was leaving. Maybe she planned it that way.

I entered the brightly lit hospital room looking for her. I thought she was sleeping peacefully. I tried to roused her but she would not stir. It was then staff told me she was gone. But she was still soft, and warm. I hugged her, never wanting to let go. That Tuesday afternoon, I kissed Mama goodbye for the last time.

It's been almost six years since she passed away, but I have never stopped telling her my stories. In many instances, I think she made it known to me that she still listens with genuine interest. I guess she never really went away, and I believe never in my life will I ever be totally alone, I have our memories, and Mama is always looking after me, I can bet on that. Happy Mother's Day, 'Ma, wherever you may be.

The Bellevue Hotel Marks Mom's Day

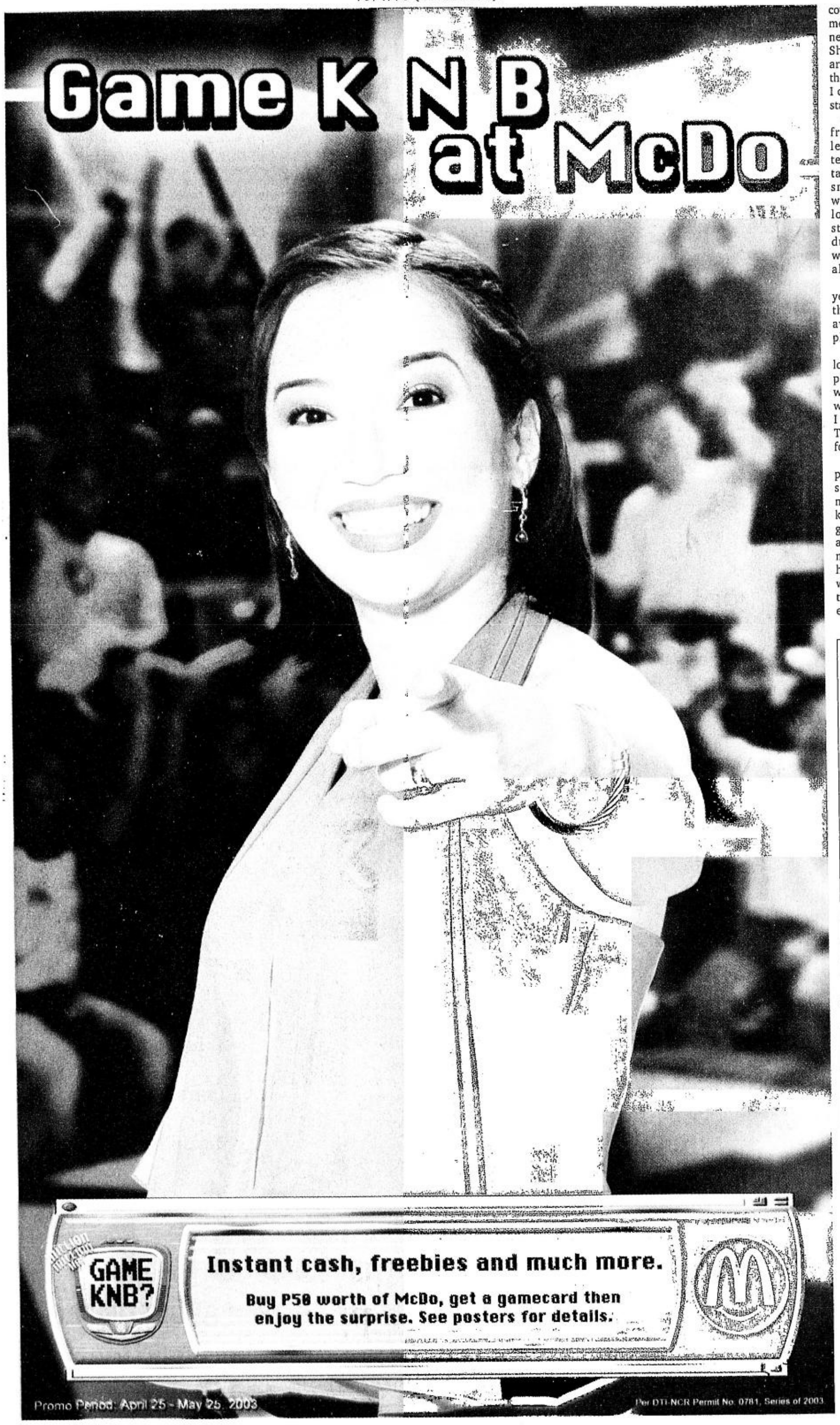
She is somebody's sister, aunt, niece, or daughter – but she's at her best as a mother. This Sunday, The Bellevue Hotel pays homage to hardworking mom with it's Mother's Day Special Buffet – a promo available only on May 11. Treating diners to a special lunch buffet at P650 and a flavorful dinner buffet at P750, The Bellevue cooks up mouth-watering Filipino specialties from different regions – whether it be Bicolano or Kapampangan. The Bellevue Hotel is Alabang's best-kept secret – the only business hotel located South of Metro Manila. Distinctive diners frequent the elegantly appointed Café d' Asie Asian Specialty Restaurant and the lively 20/20, an entertainment center with a music lounge, main and sports bar at the hotel's top floor. Celebrate with mom at The Bellevue. You know she deserves it!

Buffet at the Pacific Wharf on Mother's Day

In celebration of Mother's Day on 11 May 2003, the Pacific Wharf restaurant located at the Third level of Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati City and at Tomas Morato near corner A. Roces Avenue, Quezon City will have a lunch and dinner buffet.The buffet consists of fifteen delectable dishes, prepared specially on this grand occasion amidst the casual wharf-like setting of the Pacific Wharf restaurant.
Prices of the buffet are at P395.00 for adults and P195.00 for kids. Lunch buffet starts at 11:00 a. m. to 2:30 p. m. while dinner buffet starts at 6:30 p.m. onwards.Other surprises awaits our lucky guests, as Pacific Wharf restaurant joins the rest of the world in paying tribute to all mothers' in this memorable event. For reservation please call 926-3568 or 898-0970 to 71.

'Mommy is best' at Dads Restaurant

CELEBRATE Mother's Day with Dads' ultimate buffet. It's 3 buffets (Dads, Kamayan, Saisaki) in one. Plus thirst-quenching summer drinks that come with this cute and cuddly Mother's Day stuffed toy. For reservations and inquiry call 531-7292 or 531-6101.



JOB Market

SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2003
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Effective May 14, 2003, applicants for SM Lucena may apply personally at SM Lucena Department Store, Villa Consuelo, Enverga Boulevard, Red-V, Lucena City.

E-mail: Recruit.SM.HO@sm-shoemart.com

OPERATIONS GROUP

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male, graduate of Business Administration, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering; with at least two (2) years work experience in property management and building administration in the same capacity; able to lead group and prioritize work load to meet deadlines

SELLING MANAGER/ SUPERVISOR

with at least one (1) year experience in retail operations, food chain or in sales; personable and can handle customer concerns and complaints effectively

CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER/SUPERVISOR

female, graduate of any 4-year business course; with pleasing personality and can handle customer concerns and complaints effectively; with at least one (1) to two (2) years experience in customer service

COUNTER & CHECKING MANAGER/ SUPERVISOR

female, with at least one (1) year experience in credit card transactions in the same capacity; flexible and can handle customer concerns and complaints effectively

WAREHOUSE MANAGER/ SUPERVISOR

male, graduate of any 4-year business course; with intensive experience in warehousing and other related functions preferably in retail business; able to lead and motivate staff and foster a team working environment

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'male, 5'5 1/2" in height, female, 5'2" in height, graduate of Criminology or at least 2nd year college; flexible to different work assignments and willing to be assigned in provincial branches; must be physically fit and willing to work on extended hours; at least one (1) year related work experience

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- Must have an excellent command of oral and written English skills.
- Must submit a sample web portfolio (required).
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- 26-35 years old, female with pleasing personality
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Who will provide advice and service in the area of financial management and all the operating and service unit of all the companies of the holding company by managing the activities of management information system, budget and costing and accounting.

Requirements:
- must be a Female CPA with at least 5 years experience in the same or related field
- computer literate, and excellent in oral and written communication, preferably with Master's Degree
- has good track record and has established contacts in the business community
- must have strong leadership skills who can train, motivate, & coordinate an effective dynamic team

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Who will direct and coordinate activities of the organization to obtain efficiency and economy of operations and maximize profits.

Requirements:
- Male, a licensed Mechanical/Electrical Engineer, or a CPA preferably with a Master's Degree
- between 35-45 years old, at least 7-10 years in the managerial position and has supervised the areas of HR, Administration, Accounting, and Sales and Marketing, and Materials
- must have strong leadership who can train, motivate an effective dynamic team
- has a dynamic personality and excellent in oral and written communication

TAC TEAM ASIA CORPORATION

TEAM ASIA CORPORATION
Submit your detailed resumé, 2x2 picture & transcript of records, not later than May 24, 2003 to:
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Human Resources & Administration Department
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Work Base: Tanay

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Preferably graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, or Human Resource Management/Development; proficient in computer software, microsoft office 2000; excellent command of both the English and Filipino languages; preferably with 2-3 years experience as HR Specialist in Training and Organization Development.
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1. A brief resumé providing your name, current contact info and history of education and employment. Please include references (no relations).
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3. An essay talking about your fighting style and the kind of work you are dreaming of. It should be no longer than one page (letter-sized) double spaced, 12 point, Times New Roman or Helvetica.
4. A photograph of your meanest fighting face (may be included in the basic resumé).

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Sage

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- Excellent communication skills & customer relations
- Computer literate (MS Office, Internet, Email)

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- Male/Female, 20-29 years old
- Graduate of any four-year course
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Excellent both in oral and written communication skills
- Experience in sales & marketing an advantage
- Willing to work in shifting schedules & different location assignments
- Computer literate (MS Office, Internet, Email)

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- Female, 20-29 years old
- Graduate of any four-year course
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Excellent both in oral and written communication skills
- Experience in cashiering an advantage
- Willing to work in shifting schedules & different location assignments
- Computer literate (MS Office, Internet, Email)

FIELD TECHNICIANS

- Male, 21-29 years old
- Graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering or any related IT course
- With at least 1-2 years work related experience
- Proficient in Microsoft Operating System (Windows NT, Windows 2000 SERVER)
- With Internet Application knowledge

TRAINING SPECIALIST

- Male/Female, 25-30 years old
- Graduate of Industrial Engineering/Management/Psychology or any allied Behavioral Science course
- 3-5 years experience in Training specialized in Marketing, Sales, Customer Service areas
- Excellent in oral & written communication skills
- Good interpersonal skills
- Proficient in using Microsoft Office (Word, Powerpoint)

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- Preferably Male, 25-35 years old
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- Strong management skills
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Should be Articulate, Proactive & Results-Oriented. Training will be provided. No experience required.

3 MARKETING PARTNERS
Also must have Sales Experience & Leadership qualities.

1 ACCOUNTANT Computer Literate w/ Bookkeeping experience.

Send Biodata w/photo or visit us for interview on Tue to Fri 9:00am to 11:30am

President REALTY INC
505 President Tower, 81 Timog Ave, cor. Scout Ybardolaza Q.C. 4142883

"THE TIME FOR WINNING IS NOW. THE PLACE FOR WINNING IS HERE."

WANTED

RESORT MANAGER

QUALIFICATIONS
- Male, preferably single
- With pleasing personality
- Preferably resident of the Visayas
- Experienced in resort and/or hotel operations
- Proficient in oral and written English

Compensation commensurate to qualifications.

Mail, or come personally to submit, your complete resume, transcript of records, and 2x2 photo, Mondays or Fridays 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.; Saturdays 8:00a.m. - 12nn to: Mr. Precioso David.

SFD
6th Floor, 349 G. Puyat Ave.
Makati City

WE ARE AN INTERNATIONAL SERVICE PROVIDER, DIRECTLY SUPPORTING THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS, IN THE SEARCH OF DEDICATED, HARDWORKING ENGINEERS AND PROFESSIONALS.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS REPRESENTATIVES or CRR's (Inbound and Outbound)

(Code CRR-1)

We are looking for CRR's who are excellently conversant in one or several of the following languages: American English, Spanish, Japanese, Korean, Bahasa Indonesia, Bahasa Malaysia and/or Mandarin. Each one will be responsible for handling inbound and outbound clients involving various customer programs such as order taking, help desk assistance, lead generation, telemarketing and customer relations. Candidates should have a very good voice quality, high PC literacy and ability to navigate via computer applications used to address customer needs. Candidates should be University or College graduates. Attractive compensation package consisting of competitive basic pay, generous incentive and bonus plan awaits successful candidates.

CUSTOMER RELATIONS TEAM LEADER

(Code CRTL)

The position shall supervise a team of 15 to 20 Customer Relations Representatives who may be handling Inbound and Outbound clientele; shall take the lead as the supervising officer for customer care, sales or engineering. Candidates should meet the following qualifications: College or University graduate with excellent oral and written communication skills, the Team Leader should be a very good coach and mentor of people. Individually, candidates should be conversant in any one or more of the following languages: American English, Spanish, Japanese, Korean, Bahasa Indonesia, Bahasa Malaysia and/or Mandarin with very good PC literacy. Attractive compensation package consisting of competitive basic pay, generous incentive and bonus plan awaits successful candidates.

BUSINESS SOLUTIONS MANAGERS for IT / TELECOMS (SALES)

(Code RM)

The position is responsible for sales & revenue generation for any of the following business sectors: Telecoms, Information Technology, Building Communication Solutions (voice/data infrastructure), Building Electronic Security Systems (building maintenance, fire protection, security system, etc.), Business Software Solutions. Candidates we are tapping are businessmen & women adept in high network selling and relationship management fueled by a proven track record in selling business solutions, telecoms and IT systems and products covered by the business sectors mentioned above. They should possess excellent oral & written English communication skills with high PC literacy; proven track record in consistently meeting sales targets and in interfacing with the business community's top decision makers. A university degree in Engineering or Computer Science is a decided advantage.

PROJECT ENGINEERS

(Code PE)

The position will be responsible for providing technical support services to clients and assigned projects. Candidates should meet the following qualifications: BS Electronics and Communications Engineering graduates with 2 to 3 years experience in turn key projects covering PC/network set up and maintenance, structured cabling; ability to use testing equipment such as Fluke DSP4300, LAN Cat and similar instruments; experience in installation, maintenance, and administration of Voice/Data networks; certifications in any of the following would be a decided advantage: CISCO, AVAYA, MICROSOFT, LUCENT.

SOFTWARE ENGINEERS / PROGRAMMERS

(Code SEP)

The position shall develop programs using standard and established methodologies; shall code, test and implement configuration changes to software in order to meet functional and technical requirements; shall repair and maintain applications and create test scripts and execute and document the same to ensure efficiency. Candidates should meet the following qualifications: College or University graduates preferably in Business, Accounting, Engineering or Computer Science; 2 to 3 years programming experience; knowledge and working experience in any of the following software(s) is a decided advantage: MS-SQL, Visual Basic, Oracle, PL Sequel, Crystal, Siebel.

I.T. MANAGER

(Code ITM)

A seasoned Information Technology person responsible for the organization's IT policy, strategy and operation who will manage the organization's hardware and software development and management of the voice and data networks. The position shall manage and control a large team of technical and professional staff where applications will be highly sophisticated and essential to the running of the organization and addressing customer needs. A minimum proven track record and/or experience of 5 years in a telecoms or IT organization with a university degree in Computer Science, Electronics & Communications Engineering, or Electrical Engineering a decided advantage.

WORKFORCE & CAPACITY PLANNING MANAGER

(Code WFCP)

The position shall provide analytical support in deciphering amount of workforce needed on a specific shift schedule as dictated by client needs. A minimum of 1 to 2 years experience in work force management and a degree in Business, Mathematics or Industrial/ Management Engineering a decided advantage.

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATORS

(Code SA)

The position is responsible for maintaining the organization's database system and balancing server capacity, and user requirements; troubleshooting, investigating systems downtime and failures, ensuring elimination of the same; interfacing with internal clients and adds value in the internal development of various database architectures. Candidates should meet the following qualifications: College or University graduates preferably in Business, Engineering or Computer Science; 3 to 5 years experience in Systems Administration; experience in installation, maintenance, and administration of Voice/Data networks; knowledge and working experience in any of the following is a decided advantage: MS-SQL, Visual Basic, Oracle PL Sequel, Crystal, Siebel, VBasic, ASP, C-Language, HTML.

PROJECT MANAGERS (I.T. and/or TELECOMS)

(Code PM)

The position will be responsible in ensuring proper execution and completion of projects endorsed by NIS Design and Engineering based on agreed and approved schedule, budget and customer satisfaction standards. Candidates should meet the following qualifications: BS Electronics and Communications Engineering/ Computer Engineering/Electrical Engineering graduates with 3 to 5 years proven track record in Project Management & Implementation preferably earned from an IT or telecoms company involved in structured cabling; experience in installation, maintenance, and administration of Voice/Data networks; certification in Project Management, knowledge in MS Excel, Word, Powerpoint presentation and MS Project; ability to work under a fast paced delivery oriented environment and multiple turn key projects; excellent analytical and communication skills; ability to conduct technical presentations to senior management and project stakeholders.

All interested applicants should express their interest in any of the mentioned positions by strictly complying with and submitting the following requirements:

1. **Letter of application indicating the CODE of the position on the upper right hand corner of the letter.**
2. **Comprehensive Resumé with 3 passport sized colored photographs.**
3. **University authenticated Transcript of Records**
4. **Mail to the Box address indicated below:**

HUMAN RESOURCES
BOX. MK-22
c/o Classified Ads
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Atrium Ground Floor, Makati Building
Makati Avenue, Makati City

E-mail address: jm_client9@inq7.net

ADTX Systems, Inc. (formerly APTi-Philippines, Inc.) is a Research and Development company and a wholly-owned subsidiary of Advanced Technology and Systems Co., Ltd. (ADTX) Japan.

We are looking for **HIGHLY MOTIVATED and EXPERIENCED:**

HR STAFF/OFFICER

Main Job: The candidate will report directly to the Vice President; will work with the Management Team in all aspect of Human Resource Development for all engineers.

Qualifications

- Male or Female; Age 25-28 years old
- Preferably Single
- Graduate of Computer/Engineering courses **AN ADVANTAGE**; or any other related 4 year courses.
- Minimum of 3 years experience in all aspects of HR (Admin of Policies/Programs covering the following: Recruitment, Compensation and Benefits, Employee and Labor Relations, Safety and Personnel Research)
- Has worked in I.T software companies in the same capacity
- Computer Literate
- Good Communication Skills (Oral/Written)
- Pleasing Personality

We offer an attractive remuneration package commensurate to the candidate's expertise and qualifications. Applicants may send their application letter, resume, transcript of records, 2x2 picture and supporting credentials to:

ADTX Systems, Inc.
P.O Box 187, Ayala-Alabang Post Office, 1799, Muntinlupa City
CODE: HR

*** Previous applicants need NOT apply.**

REEDLEY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

(A Singapore-American School)

LICENSED & EXPERIENCED TEACHERS
(for all Grade Levels)

URGENTLY NEEDED:

* MATH * SCIENCE * ESL * PE
* READING * ENGLISH *ART * RELIGION

- **GRADUATES OF ATENEO, DELA SALLE, UST, MIRIAM, UP & ASSUMPTION**
- **EXCELLENT COMPENSATION PACKAGE**

Send your resume with 2x2 picture to:
Ms. MONA RIZELLE D. AUSTRIA
Pasig Blvd. cor Rosemarie Lane Pasig City
or email us at ris@reedleyschool.com

Hotel PONTE FINO

BATANGAS CITY

A hilltop retreat nestled in the very heart of Batangas City....
here you will find a Filipino Boutique Hotel offering you 60 finely appointed bedrooms.
Banquet and recreational facilities are some features you will discover.
A highly creative and innovative team invites you....

GENERAL MANAGER

Filipino; male or female, 5 years work experience in a resort or hotel; must have held a Senior Management position in a 5 Star resort/hotel. Will consider those who have expertise in other areas of Hotel Management (Rooms Division or F&B Management) Extensive knowledge and understanding of Hotel Operations and of Pre-Opening Set-up.

RESIDENT MANAGER / FRONT OFFICE MANAGER

Extensive background in Front Office Operations and Reservations Systems. Revenue management a must. Astute in identifying opportunities and sensitive to the ever changing needs of the guests.

SALES COORDINATORS

Articulate, persuasive, good organizers and willing to learn. Based in Batangas City. Minimum of 2 years work experience in room/banquet sales.

F&B MANAGER

At least 2 years work experience in a multi-operational type of establishment; food and beverage oriented. Can think on his feet, highly flexible and motivated. Has training and employee development background and is a team builder.

PURCHASING OFFICER

Has at least 2 years work experience as a purchaser in restaurant / hotel operations. Highly resourceful, creative and innovative.

COST CONTROL OFFICER

At least a Hotel and Restaurant Management graduate. Has an eye for detail; well-organized and prior work experience in restaurant operations is an advantage. Has held at least 2 years work experience in cost control / hotel audit in a hotel or restaurant set-up.

CHEF DE CUISINE

Applicant should have training and management skills with hands on experience in a la carte service and banquet preparation. Knowledge in menu planning, menu execution, recipe costing and food presentation. Should have at least 2 years Sous Chef work experience.

SENIOR ENGINEER

Responsible for the hotel's over-all engineering requirement and preventive maintenance. Able to maximize system efficiency, implement and maintain cost effective systems. Preferably with electrical / mechanical engineering as area of expertise.

Applicants must be willing to live in Batangas City or in the nearby areas; computer literacy a must.

Qualified applicants may send their resumé to:
HRD Department – 24th Floor, IBM Plaza Bldg., Eastwood City, E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Libis, Quezon City

May we request applicants to enclose a 2x2 photo, transcript of records, and certificates of previous employment. May we likewise request a one page essay attachment of your goals in life.

Link2Support, Inc. is a world-class call center located within one of the premiere technology cyberparks in Manila, Philippines. The Call Center was established to render technical support to businesses and home users of Linksys products around the world by phone, email or chat. The Linksys Group, Inc. is known as the worldwide leader in the development and manufacturing of broadband and wireless networking solutions for homes, small office/home office (SOHO), small/medium business (SMB) and corporate workgroups.

Cutting across different US, Europe and Asian time zones, Link2Support is operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and has a management team with over 20 years of call center experience. Link2Support has a workforce of over 600 Product Support Representatives composed mainly of licensed Electronics and Communications Engineers and Bachelor's degree holders in Computer Engineering/Science and related disciplines who are fluent in conversational English.

Its cutting-edge technology, work processes, stringent quality control and vibrant work environment make Link2Support, Inc. an ideal partner in jumpstarting your career in the field of new-age technology.

Build your career. Grow with us!

We are in search of superior, vibrant, and highly-motivated individuals for the following positions:

Product Support Representatives
Responsible for providing excellent technical support and customer service to clients all over the world.
- A degree in ECE, Computer Engineering, Computer Science or any computer related course; non- technical graduates with technical trainings and 4th year level undergraduates of technical courses are also welcome to apply
- Knowledgeable in PC Networking or PC troubleshooting; Trainings related to PC Networking is an advantage
- Excellent English Communication Skills, both oral and written
- Background in providing technical support is an advantage
- Willing to work on shifting schedules, including graveyard shifts

MIS Supervisor
Responsible for supervising network and telecoms teams.
- Candidate must possess a Bachelor's Degree in Electronics and Communications Engineering or any computer-related course
- Candidate must have 3-5 years experience in networking and telecoms, 2 years of which should be in a Supervisory level
- Must be willing to work on shifting schedules, including graveyard shifts
- Excellent communication skills, both oral and written
- Previous experience in a call center environment will be an advantage

Administration Executive
Responsible for performing various administrative functions, including manning the front desk.
- Candidate must possess a Bachelor's Degree in Business-related courses
- Experienced and knowledgable with various administrative function is an advantage
- Possesses excellent oral and written commununication skills.
- Possesses a pleasing personality
- Willing to work on shifts, including graveyard shifts

Human Resource Manager
Responsible for planning and administering policies related to all phases of human resource activities in recruitment, behavioral training, wage and benefits administration, performance appraisal and organizational development
- Candidate must possess a Bachelor's Degree in Human Resource Management, Psychology or its equivalent. A Post Graduate Diploma / Master's Degree is an advantage
- Candidate must have 8-12 years experience in the field of Human Resource Management, 5 of which should be in a managerial level
- Candidate must be familiar with all aspects of Human Resources in a dynamic and people-oriented multinational corporation setup
- Candidate must have an extensive working knowledge of the Phil. Labor Law
- Candidate must be able to work under pressure
- Candidate must possess excellent oral and written communication skills
- Previous experience in a call center environment will be an advantage

We offer you an opportunity to work in a dynamic environment and continuous training and development.

HOW TO APPLY

Interested applicants may send their resumes to recruitment@link2support.com in an MS Word format, with a picture, indicating Application for (Indicate position title) as the subject.

Or visit us at:

Link2Support, Inc.
5/F TechnoPlaza One Bldg., Orchard Road,
Eastwood City CyberPark
188 E. Rodriguez Jr. Avenue
Libis, Quezon City

We look forward to hearing from you.

VISIT US AT www.link2support.com

Sportshouse

AREA MANAGER
- Male/Female, College graduate
- At least two years experience in Retail/Sales Operations
- With excellent communication and leadership skills
- Responsible, Trustworthy, can work with minimum supervision
- Can handle a minimum of three (3) branches within Metro Manila or Provincial Area

BRANCH SUPERVISOR
- Male/Female, College graduate
- Willing to be assign in any branches
- At least one year experience in Retail/Sales Operations
- Responsible, Trustworthy, can work with minimum supervision
- Must possess strong leadership skills

MARKETING ASSISTANT
- Female, Graduate of any four year course major in marketing
- Must possess creativity and a pleasing personality
- With good oral and written communication skills

ACCOUNTING STAFF
- Female, must be Accounting graduate with good scholastic records
- With extensive experience in Accounting works
- Possesses good working attitude

IT STAFF
- Female, must be a computer course graduate
- With background in Relational Database Management System (RDBMS)
- With knowledge in PC Troubleshooting

You may send your resumé with 2x2 picture at:

19 Pecton Bldg. Gilmore Avenue,
New Manila, Quezon City
Telephone Nos. **721-2480 / 721-5553**
E-mail: **sports@sportshouse.com.ph**

Chowking

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES!

SYSTEMS OFFICER
-Must be a graduate of BS Industrial Engineering, Hotel & Restaurant Management or Hotel and Restaurant Administration.
-With at least 2-3 years working experience in a customer service oriented organization preferably in the food service.
-With experience in planning and implementing a store design standard.
-Can establish and standardize work process flow, layout and procedures which will ensure maximum space utilization and efficiency of operations.
-Must have significant project management experience.
-Must be organized and has excellent analytical and numeric skills.
-Proficient in computer software.

R & D SPECIALIST
-Female, not more than 35 years old.
-A graduate of BS Food Technology, HRM or Home Economics.
-Possesses good communication skill and is capable of training people.
-A good/versatile cook.
-Willing to be assigned in Muntinlupa area.

COST ACCOUNTANT
-Male or Female, not more than 27 years old.
-A graduate of BS Accountancy.
-With at least 1-2 years experience in bookkeeping, cost accounting, and general accounting under a computerized environment.
-Analytical and result oriented.

STORE MANAGER
-Male or Female, not more than 35 years old.
-College graduate of any four (4) year course.
-With at least three (3) years managerial experience in retail, manufacturing, fast food or any service oriented business.
-People-oriented with good P.R.
-Articulate, possesses strong leadership ability.
-Flexible and willing to work on rotating shifts.
-Willing to be assigned anywhere in the country.

MANAGEMENT TRAINEE
-Male or Female, not more than 27 years old.
-Graduate of any BS HRM, BSC, Management, Food Technology, Marketing, Accounting, Economics, Business Administration, Financial Management, or any business related course.
-Articulate, presentable and smart.
-People-oriented with good salesmanship skill.
-Flexible and willing to work on rotating shifts.

INTERESTED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO SEND THEIR RESUME WITH CONTACT NUMBER TO:

HR-RECRUITMENT DEPARTMENT
CHOWKING CORPORATE OFFICE
7TH FLOOR, JOLLIBEE CENTER, SAN MIGUEL AVENUE, ORTIGAS CENTER, PASIG CITY

VSO

Bahaginan is VSO's southern volunteer programme, an initiative that works in development through volunteers. It offers a unique opportunity for Filipinos to share their skills and learn about another culture elsewhere in the developing world. Currently, there are over 60 VSO Filipino volunteers serving in over 20 countries around the world. It provides technical support towards the development of national volunteering programmes.

VSO Bahaginan welcomes applications for a high quality, committed professional as:

PROGRAMME OFFICER

The Post Holder will be expected to:
- Ensure that quality volunteers are recruited, selected and matched to appropriate placements abroad;
- Contribute to and participate in planning and implementing recruitment strategies;
- Participate in learning needs assessment and delivery with volunteers; and
- Coordinate volunteer assessment and build a network of VSO volunteer selectors.

Key responsibilities will include the following;

As Placement Adviser
- Take an active part in team planning to ensure that team targets and objectives are successfully met, as well as contribute to corporate strategic planning and objective setting.
- Participate in the development of team systems and activities and to represent the team to external organizations
- Take a role in assessing supply and demand and developing an appropriate recruitment strategy mainly for health volunteers
- Participate in a variety of stages of volunteer recruitment as appropriate. Take responsibility for filling requests in a specific geographical or skill area or for a caseload of volunteers and to work with Overseas Programme Offices and other departments in VSO to maximise the number of volunteers taking up placements each year.
- Work closely with the VSO international recruitment bases to negotiate matching of volunteers to appropriate placements based on specified targets.
- Analyse placement information and facilitate volunteer decision-making.
- Plan relevant pre-departure briefing and training with the volunteers and provide VSO specific input to pre-departure courses.

As Volunteer Assessment Coordinator
- Take responsibility for assessing skills, personal circumstances and qualities of applicants and volunteers during the recruitment and matching process. The post holder will also be required to train as selector for VSO.
- Coordinate volunteer assessment process and build a network of VSO volunteer selectors.

Person Specification
We require a confident person preferably with community-based health or public health education background or work experience, at least three years relevant work experience and excellent verbal and written communication skills, strong interpersonal skills, analysis, training, excellent administrative and organizational ability. The applicant should also be computer literate.

This post is initially offered on a one-year contract, with possibility to renew.

Closing date: **25 May 2003**
Interview Date : **02 June 2003**
Preference Starting date: **01 July 2003**

Please submit your letter of intent and your comprehensive resume to Southern Volunteer Programme Manager at bahaginan@qinet.net.

We will only contact shortlisted candidates.

New Horizons®
Computer Learning Centers
CHOOSE. LEARN. SUCCEED.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Minimum qualifications
- Have good interpersonal skills and can build good rapport with any group of people
- Must be a team player, creative, dynamic and flexible
- Must have excellent oral and written English communication skills.
- Ability to handle pressure
- Aggressive and fast-learner
- Computer literate
- College Degree Holder
- IT related background is an advantage

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Minimum qualifications
- Accounting graduate preferred
- Minimum 2 years experience in general accounting
- Knowledgeable with BIR and other government compliance reports
- Computer literate
- Good oral and written communication skills

PART TIME / CONTRACT INSTRUCTORS

Minimum qualifications
- BS Computer Science or equivalent
- Excellent communications and presentation skills
- Available week nights and Saturdays (preferably daytime)
- Fluency in Spoken English is a must
- Training / Teaching experience a plus
- Knowledgeable and experience in any of the following:
  - ✓ JAVA Programming (Advance preferred)
  - ✓ JAVA Enterprise
  - ✓ XML
  - ✓ E-Business
  - ✓ JBuilder

Send us your resumé with contact information on or before May 16, 2003 via fax (840.5000) or email to Careers.Makati@newhorizons.com or Sales.Makati@newhorizons.com. You can also bring your resume at New Horizons Computer Learning Centers Philippines at 10/F Robinsons Summit Center, 6783 Ayala Avenue, Makati City.

DHL

DHL is the world's leading express and logistics company offering customers innovative and customised solutions from a single source. With global expertise in solutions, express, air and ocean freight and overland transport DHL combines worldwide coverage with an in depth understanding of local markets. DHL's harmonised international network links more than 220 countries and territories worldwide.

Based in Brussels, Belgium, DHL is 100% owned by Deutsche Post *World Net.*

We invite you to join our pool of talents as we offer job opportunities.

LOCAL ADVANTAGE MANAGER
(CODE : LAM)

Overall Purpose:
Manages, develops and directs the Local Advantage Sales Team within the Sales Group to achieve revenue and profit contribution objectives, from an assigned list of Local Advantage customers.
Qualifications:
- Preferably with a degree in Business Management or a commercially oriented subject.
- Minimum 5 years corporate sales experience, preferably in a service-related industry.
- Previous experience in managing Account Managers or sales staff.
- Ability to manage and develop relationships and negotiate at all levels of management in a customer organization.
- Ability to lead a team, and develop strategies to support objectives for Loca
- Total dedication to and focus upon servicing and supporting both internal and external customers is absolutely essential.
- Comprehensive knowledge of DHL network or related industry will be an added advantage.
- Good communication (oral and written), negotiation and interpersonal skills.
- Computer literacy is required in Microsoft (MS Word, Exel and Powerpoint)
- Willing to travel

KEY ACCOUNTS MANAGER
(CODE : KAM)

Overall Purpose:
Manages a defined portfolio of Local Advantage customers on a country level.
Qualifications:
- Preferably with a degree in Business Management or a commercially oriented subject.
- Minimum 5 years corporate sales experience, preferably in a service-related industry.
- Previous experience of major account handling would be an advantage.
- Service industry experience
- Total dedication to and focus upon servicing and supporting both internal and external customers is absolutely essential.
- Comprehensive knowledge of DHL network or related industry will be an added advantage.
- Possesses strong analytical and sales management skills.
- Good communication (oral and written)and presentation skills.
- Excellent interpersonal and negotiation skills.
- Working knowledge on DHL Products and Services

SERVICE QUALITY ANALYST
(CODE : SQA)

Overall Purpose:
To proactively provide data and business analysis in support of Operations, Gateway and Customer Service with the objective to improve operational effectiveness, costs, efficiency, productivity and profitability and to ensure that Customer, Country and Network service and Business Plan commitments are fully met.
Qualifications:
- Minimum of two (2) years business experience.
- Have worked with industry standard analysis tools.
- Familiar with Statistical analysis techniques
- Capable of learning new concepts and tools quickly.
- Should be organized and must possess good management skills.
- Self starter and team player.
- Strong English comprehension needed.
- Excellent PC skills – MS Excel, MS Access, Graphics and Database.

Interested parties may send their application letters and resumé, indicating the code of desired position, addressed to the Human Resources Department at

Box MK-116
c/o Classified Ads Dept.
Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F Atrium of Makati, Makati Avenue

Closing Date : 30 May 2003

The Royal Norwegian Embassy, Commercial Section is in need of

Commercial Officer/Market Adviser

JOB DESCRIPTION
1. Responsible for writing industry and market studies
2. Responsible for responding to Norwegian and Philippine trade inquiries
3. Assist in agent/partner search for Norwegian Clients
4. Responsible for maintaining Customer Relationship Management (CRM) tool
5. Assist in preparing visit program for non-ADB clients
6. Assist in promoting Norwegian industry in the Philippines
7. Assist in arranging seminars and trade fairs
8. Assist Philippine companies interested in doing business with Norwegian companies.

QUALIFICATIONS:
1. College graduate in the field of economics and business management
2. Computer literate (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
3. 5 years experience in similar field
4. Relevant background about the Philippine economy, trade, and industry sectors
5. Relevant contacts with private companies and Government agencies
6. Excellent oral and written English communication skills
7. Good background in report writing and industry studies
8. Able to work in a multi-cultural environment
9. Able to work alone or with minimum supervision
10. Embassy experience is an advantage

Please send your applications to:
Ms. Catherine Bascos
Royal Norwegian Embassy, Commercial Section
12/F THE WORLD CENTRE
330 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City
E-mail: cathy.bascos@ntc.no

JIDECO Mfg. Phils. Inc., one of the leading companies in the automotive industry manufacturing electrical motors is in need of the fl. personnel to be based in our Lipa, Batangas Plant:

SAFETY AND SECURITY OFFICER
- 26-35 years old, Male;
- Graduate of Engineering course major in Electrical, Mechanical or Chemical;
- With at least 1 yr. experience in implementation and monitoring of safety and security requirements of a company with a background in handling pollution control activities;
- Formal trainings in construction project management, first aid and basic life support, occupational safety and health, industrial fire brigade shall be advantage

WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR
- 25-31 years old, Male,
- Graduate of any 4-5 years course;
- With at least 2 years experience in handling warehouse activities gained in a manufacturing company;
- With knowledge in inventory control and with strong leadership capability

PRODN CTRL TRAINING COORDINATOR
- 20-30 years old, Male/Female,
- Graduate of at least 4 years course;
- With at least 2 years experience in handling training activities from establishing training system and procedure, creating training plan, to implementation of training activities;
- With good oral and written communication skill

COST ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR
- 27-35 years old, Male or Female;
- Graduate of Accounting course;
- With at least 3 years experience as Cost Accounting Supervisor;
- Has leadership capability

QA ENGINEER
- 23-26 years old, Male/Female, Single/Married;
- Graduate of Engineering course major in Electrical, Mechanical, Electronics and Communication and Industrial;
- With at least 1 year experience in quality assurance or process engineering;
- Must be knowledgeable in using basic hand tools and/or other inspection equipment;
- Preferably knowledgeable in SPC, DOE, FMEA, QC Tools, PPAP, MSA and IQA.

NOTE:
➢ *Residents of Batangas or nearby cities/provinces and those who are willing to relocate are highly preferred.*

Interested applicants may hand carry, send, or e-mail resumé to:

JIDECO MANUFACTURING PHILIPPINES INC.
Lima Technology Center SEPZ, Lipa City, Batangas
E-mail address: rizza-reyes@lima.jideco.co.jp

WANTED

* Executive Secretary
  Office Administrator
  Single, Female, graduate of reputable College, with excellent communication skills, & strong personality
* Accounting Clerk
* Tele-Marketer
* Account Executives
* Computer Prog./Lay out Artist

EVT Group of Companies
507 Raffles Corporate Ctr., Emerald Ave.,
Ortigas Ctr., Pasig City
Tel. 9252348 / 9003333

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ISO-certified Multi-national Company engage in manufacturing various housing fixtures, committed to quality service and customer satisfaction. Awarded as Top Sectoral Export Performance Citation for Furniture Category are in need of the following personnel:

Assistant Supervisors

(for production and maintenance)

- Male/Female, at least 21-30 years old
- Graduate of BS Customs or any Engineering course
- With at least 6 months of supervisory work experience
- Aggressive, analytical and assertive
- Knowledge in machine operation for wooden product

Pollution Control Officer

(urgent hiring)

- Male, between 21 to 30 years of age
- BS degree in Engineering Chemical, Mechanical, or Environmental
- Knowledge in the implementation of ISO standard 14000
- With experience in reporting to DENR (pollution control and waste management)
- Excellent communication skills
- Must be computer literate (MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint and basic AutoCAD)

Company Nurse

- Graduate of BS Nursing
- Female, between 21-27 years old
- Experience in industrial setting is an advantage
- People oriented and can work on extended hours

Sanitary Engineer

- Single, Male or Female, at least 21-30 years old
- Must be Safety/Officer/Sanitary Engineer
- DOLE accreditation
- Must have at least 2 years in supervisory experienced
- Must have a Nutrition-related experienced
- Must provide a program for Occupational Health and Safety in complying with DOLE-BWC Standards

Research & Development (ASV)

- Graduate of any 4-year computer course
- Male/Female, between 21-27 years of age
- Basic knowledge in AutoCAD2000
- Can operate windows based program

Office Staff

- Male/Female, between 21-27 years old
- Graduate of BS Psychology, Mass Com, Marketing, Computer Science, Chemistry or Economic
- With pleasing personality
- Aggressive, analytical and assertive
- With 6 months experience in office work, people oriented
- Can work on extended hours
- Must be computer proficient

Programmer and MIS Technical Staff

- Graduate of BS Computer Science, or Computer Engineering
- Male/Female between 21-30 years old
- Client Oriented
- Knowledgeable in ORACLE, SQL, VISUAL BASIC AND NETWORKING Win NT/ 98, TCP/IP, PBX
- PC troubleshooting (Hardware and Software)
- With six months experienced in the following:
  - Server / LAN Admin
  - Telephone Technician
  - Data Communication

Truck Head Driver

(urgent hiring)

- Male, at least 30 up to 40 years of age
- High School or Vocational Course (related in auto mechanic)
- Experience in Driving Truck Head
- Skills in Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- With professional Driver's License (R Code - 6 & 3, 2, 1)

Forklift Operator

(urgent hiring)

- At least High School / Vocational / College Level
- Male, be 20-35 years old
- With 6 months experience in forklift operation
- With Professional Driver's License
- Good moral character

Maintenance Staff

(urgent hiring)

- Male, between 20-35 years old
- Vocational or College graduate
- At least 1 year experience as electrician, mechanic or welder
- Can read electrical diagram symbol
- Must be familiar in manufacturing machine trouble
- Knowledge in compressor repair
- Knowledge in AVR control

Production Operator

(urgent hiring)

- High School, Vocational or College Level
- Male, between 18-27 years old (5'2) in height
- Well built and able body
- Good moral character
- Preferably residing within Cavite Area.

PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY
BLOCK 23 PHASE IV ROSARIO, CAVITE

You can mail or handcarry your comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture and transcript of records at the above address.

For inquiries, call telephone no. **(046) 437-2486** or **437-0849**. Look for **Christian, Gemma, Ailyn, Michael** or you can e-mail your resumé at: **hrd_scad@pacific.net.ph (No attachment)**

ZONI GROUP

We are a reputable Educational Institution based in New York, U.S.A. We will soon be opening our offshore office in Manila and we will be in need of competent individuals for the following positions:

Senior Accountant

Job responsibilities: perform various duties such as:

- Data analysis
- General ledger maintenance and analysis
- Financial statements preparation and analysis
- Budgeting
- Other specific duties to be assigned

Requirements:

- Apart from being highly analytical, focused and flexible, the candidate must have obtained a college degree in accountancy from a reputable university
- Must be a CPA
- Must be computer literate & knowledgeable in various accounting software
- The candidate must have at least 4 years working experience in general accounting or auditing
- Must have initiative and can work under pressure with minimum supervision
- Excellent command of the ENGLISH language is a must
- Female between 28-35 years old
- MBA is an advantage

Accounting and Administrative Assistant

Job responsibilities: include diverse accounting duties such as:

- Activity-report production
- Payroll processing and analysis
- Maintenance of book inventory records
- Bank reconciliation
- Other specific duties to be assigned

Requirements:

- Female, not over 28 years old
- Accounting graduate of reputable school
- Must have at least two years work experience in general accounting
- Excellent communication skills, computer literate (MS Office Suite and other accounting packages)
- Detail Oriented

Note: Since reporting will directly be in our head office in New York, candidates should be willing to work on flexi-time, most likely on night shifts. Applicants must be willing to work in Makati City.

Please indicate desired salary.

Interested applicants may e-mail their resumé to hrd@zoni.com.

ADD Force. Immigration. International. Institute.

We are a leading Human Resource consulting services company, engaged in supporting multinational firms with wide ranging human resource needs for Temporary staffing, Managed Staffing, Executive Placement, Outsourcing, and Outplacement.

QA ARCHITECT
- Male or Female
- 5 years technical experience in an engineering discipline with emphasis on testing.
- Experience with testing tools including mercury test tools including win runner, load runner and test director or other applicable testing tools such as rational robot skill test, visual test
- Experience with source control systems and defect tracking systems such as rational clearquest, PCVS
- Experience with testing distributed systems in general and specifically, JAVA/J2EE application using JUnit and OOD

SENIOR/JUNIOR JAVA PROGRAMMERS
- Graduates of BS Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Math or any related course from top universities and colleges in the Philippines and preferably belonging to the top 10% of their class
- Knowledgeable in Java, J2EE, JSP, Servlets, Javascript, HTML, UML, OOAD
- Preferably with at least 5 years project experience using Java
- Must be resourceful, flexible, fast learner and possess good communication skills

UNIX PROGRAMMERS
- Graduates of BS Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Math or any related course from top universities and colleges in the Philippines and preferably belonging to the top 10% of their class
- With at least 3 years experience in Unix Programming
- With experience in Korn Shell Scripting
- Must be resourceful, flexible, fast learner and possess good communication skills

SENIOR MANAGER (Associate Director)- Real Estate/Property (female)
- Graduate of any course (preferably with Master's degree)
- Excellent Communication skills
- Computer literate with knowledge in Microsoft Suites
- At least 5 years experience in Property Operations
- With background in Operations & Marketing
- With very good leadership qualities & a strong personality

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER- Real Estate/Property
- Graduate of any course (preferably with Master's Degree)
- Excellent Communication skills
- Computer Literate with knowledge in Microsoft Suites
- At least 5 years experience in business development with property, facilities & project management, valuation services, research & consultancy, residential marketing, commercial offices, & asset management
- With very good leadership qualities & a strong personality

PROPERTY CONSULTANTS- Real Estate
- College graduate
- With at least 2 years selling experience
- Able to work with minimum supervision
- Does field work
- Able to do cold calls
- Ambitious, aggressive and hardworking
- Willing to be trained
- Good communication skills

SOFTWARE ENGINEER (III)
- BS in CS or relateted field, or equivalent work experience
- M/F, up to 33 years old
- Proficient in Powerbuilder, Informix, C, Unix Shell Scripting, 4 GL, Java, VB, Oracle, HTML, Javascript, Perl, ASP, XML, .NET, Web Services.
- Hands-on experience in the building and testing of browser and proprietary software applications.
- At least 5 yrs development experience, 3 yrs developing in an OOP environment
- Involvement in workflow and business automation projects in outsourced environment.
- Can modify and develop applications for desktop and browsers
- Know how to design, modifies, develops, writes and implements software programming applications
- Good oral and written communication skills

Look for Ms. Abi Villavert
Tel.No.:8133000 Loc. 304
E-mail: avillavert@add.com.ph

SALES MANAGER - FMCG
- To set up direct retail stores
- Supervise & manage 3-4 Account Executives
- Knowledgeable in entertainment
- Must have experience in supermarket & department stores
- Must be analytical

Look for Ms. Hanylyn Deslate
Tel.No.: 813-3000 Loc. 319
E-mail: hdeslate@add.com.ph

TREASURY PROJECT MANAGER/ OFFICER
- Supervision of Accounts Payable and Treasury functions
- Preparation of cash projections
- Dealings with banks on foreign exchange transactions, placements, loans,
- BSBA major in Accounting; CPA preferred but not required
- At least 3 years managerial experience
- Can commit to deadlines
- Good managerial skills
- Has the ability to learn new things/ processes fast
- Willing to extend long hours

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT
- Male/Female
- At least 2 years experience in interviewing for call center agents
- Excellent English communication skills
- American educated

TRAINING MANAGER- Call Center
- Male/female
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- 5 years experience in training; with 2 years experience in training development in the field of sales and/ or customer service and/ or call center; at least 2 years in a managerial or supervisory level position

CIVIL WORKS MANAGER
- 5 years experience in Complex projects or Industrial plants
- 2 years experience in Planning & Scheduling Works
- With Telecommunications experience

OPERATIONS MANAGER- Call Center
- Male/Female
- Graduate of any course
- With at least 3 years experience in the field of sales or call center with one year managerial experience in operations

Look for Ms. Yhoj Casareo
Tel. No.: 813-3000 Loc. 317
E-mail: ycasareo@add.com.ph

CALL CENTER AGENTS
- Graduate in AB Communications, Marketing or other related fields.
- Must possess excellent English Communication Skills
- Must be willing to work in shifts.
- Must be customer oriented
- Must be able to maintain composure under a high pressure work environment.
- Must have exceptional negotiation & interpersonal skills.

THAI SPEAKING HELPDESK
- Able to speak fluent Thai language.
- Willing to be trained in I. T. fields.
- Must be customer oriented
- Flexible & willing to work on shifts

JAPANESE SPEAKING HELPDESK
- Able to speak fluent Japanese language.
- Willing to be trained in I.T. fields.
- Must be customer oriented
- Flexible & willing to work on shifts

Look for Ms. Billy Billiones
Tel.No.: 813-3000 Loc. 318
E-mail: abilliones@add.com.ph

ADDITIONAL VARIOUS POSITIONS
- DATA ENCODER
- ACCOUNTING STAFF/ASSISTANT
- ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
- HR ASSISTANT
- RECEPTIONIST
- DRIVER
- OFFICE STAFF/ ASSISTANT
- PROMO MERCHANDISER

Due to the urgency of the requirements, interested candidates are encouraged to apply personally (Monday thru Friday, 8:00am - 5:00 pm) and bring comprehensive resumés with photo & other credentials to:

ADD Force. Immigration. International. Institute.

3/F Pilar Bldg. 148 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. No. 813-3000 loc 316/317/319
Email. addforce@add.com.ph
Fax No : 894-1357
www.add.com.ph

The Law firm of **CAYETANO SEBASTIAN ATA DADO & CRUZ** (CASE Law) need

LAWYERS

with 3-5 years experience in litigation.

Application may be sent to:

THE HIRING COMMITTEE
CASELAW
12/F NDC Bldg.
116 Tordesillas St.
Salcedo Village, Makati City

TELEVISION AND PRODUCTION EXPONENTS, INC.

is accepting applicants for the following positions:

* SEGMENT PRODUCERS
* PRODUCTION ASSISTANTS
* CREATIVE WRITERS

Qualifications:
- Graduate of Communication Arts or any related course
- With good scholastic record from U.P., Miriam College or any reputable school

Bring or send RESUMÉ with picture and transcript of record at

#79 Xavierville Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City
Tel. 426-6423 to 28

LOGISTICS ASST.

A fast growing **International Company** urgently needs:

LOGISTICS ASSISTANT: Manila/Bulacan based

— Male, not over 28 years old, bright BSBA graduate, with at least 2-3 years experience in some or all of the following functions:
- Physical distribution, Warehouse and Inventory Management, Purchasing, etc.
- Proficiency in computers and a valid driver's license will be an advantage

We offer a competitive compensation package and significant opportunity for career advancement to the right candidate.

PLEASE APPLY IMMEDIATELY AT:

BIOSTADT AGRISCIENCES, INC.
307 Grace Building, Ortigas Ave., Greenhills
San Juan 1500, Metro Manila Tel: #723-1238; 723-3482
Fax: #723-1237
E-mail address: biostadt@mozcom.com

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ASIA`S 1ST AND LARGEST I.T. UNIVERSITY IS STILL GROWING!

ACADEMIC

We need the following for our campuses nationwide:

DEANS
- College of Arts and Sciences
  - PhD from a reputable school
  - With noteworthy publications
- College of Business Administration
  - DBA from a reputable school
  - With noteworthy publications
- College of Computer Studies
  - At least MS from a reputable school
  - With noteworthy publications
- College of Engineering
  - At least MS from a reputable school
  - With noteworthy publications

FACULTY MEMBERS
(College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business Administration, College of Computer Science, College of Computer Engineering)
- Graduates of reputable schools
- With good scholastic records
- Preferably with Master's degree

NON-ACADEMIC

CHIEF PEOPLE OFFICER
Graduate of MA Industrial / Human Relations from a reputable school
With more than 7 years work experience as HR head
Well-versed in organizational development and labor relations

MARKETING DIR. / MARKET RESEARCH DIR.
Graduate of Marketing, Statistics, or any related course
MBA / MA would be an advantage
Must have 3-5 years relevant work experience in a managerial capacity

ACCOUNTING MANAGER
CPA
Graduate of BSBA, BS Accountancy or any related course
Must have at least 3 years relevant work experience in a supervisory capacity
With previous exposure in Comprehensive Tax Reform Program

QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER
Graduate of Maritime Engineering, IE, or any related course
Must have at least 3 years relevant work experience
With previous training and exposure in ISO 9000 Standards, STCW '95, ISM and Total Customer Satisfaction

QA SENIOR MANAGER (CUSTOMER FOCUS)
Graduate of BS Statistics or any related course
Must have at least 3 years relevant work experience, preferably with experience in conducting surveys
With previous training and exposure on ISO 9000 Standards, Customer Satisfaction Management, Voice of the Customer

FINANCIAL ANALYST
Graduate of BS Accountancy or any related course
CPA / MBA would be an advantage
With previous work experience in investment banking or securities research

MANAGER FOR LOANS AND INVESTMENTS
CPA
Must have at least 3 years relevant work experience
Must be computer literate

QUALITY ASSURANCE SUPERVISOR
Graduate of Engineering, BS Statistics or any related course
Must have at least 2 years relevant work experience (including conducting IQA)
With previous training/exposure to ISO 9000 Standards

SYSTEM ADMINISTRATOR
Graduate of BS Computer Science, Computer Engineering, or any related course
Must have at least 2 years relevant work experience
With previous training in Windows 2000 Advance Server, MCD & MCSE

QUALITY ASSURANCE ASSISTANT
Graduate of Business Administration, IE, Statistics, or any related course
Must have at least 1 year relevant work experience
Preferably with exposure in ISO 9000 Standards

AUDIT SUPERVISOR
CPA
Must have at least 2 years relevant work experience in an accounting firm
With previous training in Internal Quality Auditing and Audit Program Development

PROGRAMMER
Graduate of BS Computer Science
Must have at least 1 year relevant work experience
With previous training in Visual Basic 6, Crystal Reports, Web

SENIOR OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR
Graduate of Engineering, Business Administration, or other related courses
At least 2 years work experience in supervisory capacity in Printing Industry using offset machine

SUPERVISOR
Male/Female, at most 40 years old
With pleasing personality
Must have supervisory experience in a consumer setting (i.e. supermarket/drugstore)

PROMODISERS/MERCHANDISERS
Contractual employment
Male/Female, ages 18-30 years old
With pleasing personality
At least high school graduate

SAP PROGRAMMER
Male/Female, 23-45 years old
With at least 2 years working experience
With background in SAP/ABAP Programming in CCS Module
Good oral and written communication skills

SECRETARY
Graduate of any 4-year course from a reputable school
Must have at least 3 years related work experience
Excellent communication skills and computer literate

STAMPING MACHINE OPERATOR
Male, with at least 1 year experience in operation of stamping machine (hard bound thesis / non-thesis)

DRIVER
At least 2 years experience as a company driver

SEND APPLICATIONS TO: **Corporate Human Resources, AMA Group of Companies**
AMA Building II, 59 Panay Avenue, Quezon City Fax. nos.: 373-9912 • 373-4390 • 373-3901 loc. 8262
E-mail: **hr-recruitment@amaes.edu.ph**

INFOTECH PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Career Opportunity in the USA!

STAFF NURSES
Qualifications:
- Male/Female, 23-45 years old
- Very good oral and written communication skills
- Licensed nurse
- CGFNS passer
- 2 years hospital experience
- TOEFL/TWE and TSE passer preferred

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS
Qualifications:
- Male/Female, 23-45 years old
- Very good oral and written communication skills
- Licensed x-ray/radiologic technologist
- 2 years hospital experience

CAREGIVER
Qualifications:
- Male/Female, 23-45 years old
- Graduate of allied medical course like Nursing, Midwifery, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, etc.
  - No need for caregiver training certificates
- If graduate of non-medical courses
  - Certificate of Caregiver Training (6 months)
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Computer literate

AMA Group of Companies

JOIN US IN MANAGING THE FUSION OF EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY

We are looking for:

Instruction Specialists for Reading, ECE, THE & Social Studies

- Bachelor's degree in Education, Psychology, Communication or related disciplines;
- Background in research, evaluation and statistics is an advantage;
- Experience in data analysis and research report writing;
- Communicates effectively in both oral and written formats;
- Can work with minimal supervision;
- Minimum of one year teaching experience is preferred.

Training Specialist

- Bachelor's degree in Education Psychology, Communication or related disciplines with relevant background on ICT;
- Background in training implementation, evaluation, and program management;
- Works with minimal supervision;
- Communicates effectively in both oral and written formats;
- Has a minimum of one year training experience;
- Possesses good organizational skills.

SEND YOUR RESUMÉ TO EDUQUEST, INC.
RM. 514, ASIA PACIFIC COLLEGE BUILDING,
#3 HUMABON PLACE, MAGALLANES VILLAGE, MAKATI CITY, 1232
(RIGHT BESIDE SHELL MAGALLANES)
OR E-MAIL TO
maer@apc.edu.ph

EduQuest, Inc. is an organizational partnership among

WG&A SuperCommerce Inc.

HOTEL MANAGER
The position is responsible for the day to day hotel operations including supervision of contractor service units on board, requirements and inventory supplies, handling passenger inquiries and complaints. Applicant should not be more than 35 years old, graduate of 4-year course, preferably BS HRM, and with 3 years experience as Hotel Manager.

GUEST SERVICES OFFICER
The position is responsible for the efficient operation of the front office department. Must be thoroughly familiar with the hotel and front office operation. Ensures that events and activities on-board are properly monitored and coordinated, and that guests are well-served and accommodated. Applicant must be a graduate of any 4-year course, with relevant experience in customer service and good in dealing with different people.

SUPERVISORS
The position is responsible either in ensuring the over-all productivity and profitability of the ship's F&B operation or providing high standard of cleanliness and courteous service to all guests in the vessel. Applicant should not be more than 35 years old, graduate of any 4-year course, preferably BS HRM or Accountancy, and with 2 years experience in hotel/restaurant operation in a supervisory level.

BAKERS
The Baker coordinates in planning the daily production schedule and prompt delivery of products to the outlets. Oversees that quality and production schedules are consistently met. Preferably male, between 21 – 38 years old. At least H.S. graduate and with a year of experience as a Baker. Should be willing to work in shifting schedules.

BAKERY ASSISTANTS
The position is responsible in assisting the planning and completion of production schedule, and act as reliever to the Chief Baker as well. Ensures consistency in the quality of products produced, its availability, on-time delivery and minimal wastage during production. Male/Female, between 16 – 26 years old and should be willing to work part time.

VESSEL CREWS
Housekeeping/F&B Attendants/Shop Attendants
Housekeeping position is responsible for maintaining high standard of cleanliness and courteous service to all guests in the vessel. F&B Attendants are responsible for serving, checking and maintaining orderliness at the food service areas. Shop Attendant is responsible for preparing requisitions of stocks for sale and keeps adequate inventory of merchandise for sale on board. Applicants must be 18 – 29 years old, at least graduate of 2-yr. course and willing to undergo the required training.

VESSEL COOK
The Cook is responsible for the preparation of all food served in the restaurant. Preferred applicant is male, should not be more than 35 years old and at least with 1 year experience as a cook.

ACCOUNTING STAFF
The position is responsible for accomplishing various accounting tasks. Applicant should be graduate of BS Accountancy, with excellent accounting skills, good oral and written communication skills and computer literate.

HRR ASSISTANT – BENEFITS
The position is responsible for employee's benefits planning and administration. He/she also facilitates the processing of WSI Employees Company benefits and other statutory benefits. Applicants should be graduate of BS/AB Psychology, with at least 2 years relevant experience, knowledgeable in HR functions, computer literate, good interpersonal and communication skills, and between 21 – 25 years old.

HRR COORDINATOR – CEBU BASED
The position is responsible for the overall HRR function for Visayas and Mindanao operation.

BAKERY SUPERVISOR
The position is responsible for the over-all productivity and profitability of the Bakeshop operation implement a quality standards set by the company.

AUDITOR ON BOARD
The position is responsible for monitoring compliance to product and service standard that are being implemented at the dill. outlets of the subcontractors and on-board the vessel. He/she is also tasked in accomplishing reports pertaining to the audit findings.

Interested applicants may process their application thru:
www.wgasupercommerce.com
or call us at 527 1649 / 527 4605 loc. 4301 - 02
(look for Julie or Regina)

Julie's GROUP OF COMPANIES WANTS YOU....

FRANCHISE ASSISTANT
Male or female; at least 23 years old
a graduate of a 4 year course preferably business related courses
Computer literate
Articulate, with good communication skills
Willing to travel all over Luzon area

BAKERY OPERATIONS SPECIALISTS / BAKERY PRODUCTION TECHNICIANS
Male or female
a graduate of BS Food Tech, Nutrition and Dietetics, Chemistry, HRM or business-related course
Good written and oral communication skills
Experience in bakery business / operation is an advantage
good interpersonal skills
willing to travel anywhere in Luzon

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR
Male or female; 25 years old and above
a graduate of BS Accountancy
with at least 2 years supervisory experience
computer literate
CPA License

TRAINING SPECIALIST
Male or female, at least 23 years old
a graduate of Psychology or Food Technology
at least 2 years experience in conducting training and designing training modules
willing to be assigned in Manila

BAKERS
Male or female, at least 20 years old
high school graduate, college level or college graduate
must be willing to be trained
willing to be assigned anywhere in Luzon and Davao

PLEASE ADDRESS APPLICATION / RESUMÉ TO:

JULIE'S FRANCHISE CORPORATION
C. Padilla St., Duljo-Fatima, Cebu City

or e-mail us at:
recruitment@juliesbakeshop.com.ph

DESIGNS LIGNA

WE NEED A PROFESSIONAL RETAIL MANAGER!

At Designs Ligna stores our people have **taste and style**. You will need to have both -- *plus* **mature leadership and retail experience** to lead our team.

E-mail your resumés to **dlignahires@skyinet.net**

WANTED IMMEDIATELY
Electrical/Mechanical Instructors
Electrical / Mechanical Engineer • LET Board passer • With at least 5 years teaching experience • Male
Please send your resumé to Mr. Fons Alerta at Dualtech Center Manila #788 Camba St., Binondo, Manila
E-mail: dualtech@philwebinc.com

WANTED
Two Agronomists for Calatagan and Lipa ricefields and fruit trees
Male or Female, must be an Agriculture college graduate with working experience as Agronomist
Please submit resumé with picture to:
Rebecca Calsip
ENZO Building
399 Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
Tel No. 8952682 • Fax No. 8909699

WANTED
LIBRARIAN
Must be computer literate, knowledgeable in OPAC and MS Access
Apply in person at:
160 Panay Avenue
cor. EDSA, Quezon City

An exclusive franchisee of a high-end imported brand is in urgent need of a top caliber:

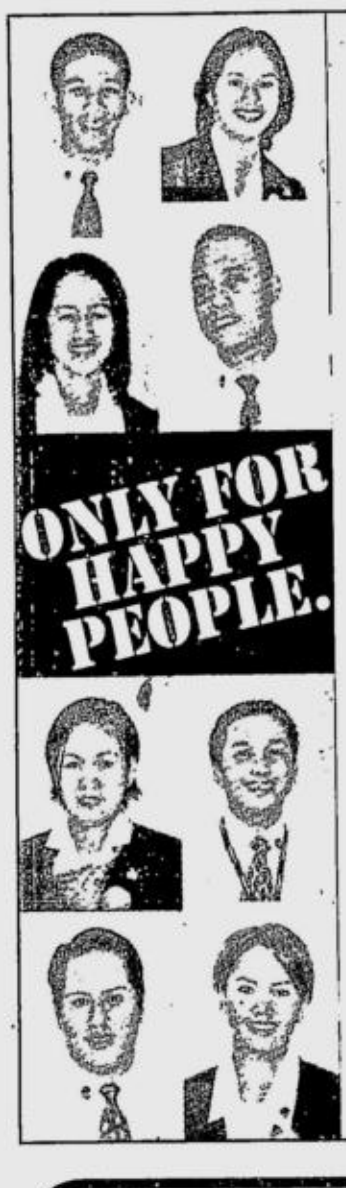
Management Services Manager

- Between 27-40 years old
- Graduate of a Business Management course, preferably n the area of Industrial Management Engineering, Organizational Development or other related areas
- Preferably an MBA degree holder
- Minimum of three (3) years management experience in business process engineering
- Exposure in all aspects of retailing and distribution operation will be an advantage
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

Qualified applicants are requested to send or e-mail immediately their comprehensive resumé, transcript of records and a recent 2x2 photo to:

Box MN - 2044
c/o Classified Ads
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Pasong Tamo cor. Yague & Mascardo Sts.,
Makati City

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)



Are you:
- ✓ a positive person?
- ✓ enthusiastic?
- ✓ dynamic?
- ✓ willing and able to learn and apply effective ideas?

That's what we're looking for in employees.

We are a **multi-billion US dollar corporation** looking for highly energetic individuals to join our team.

As Marketing Officers, Management Trainees or Sales Consultants, you will get the following:
- ✓ huge commissions
- ✓ basic salary
- ✓ cash incentives
- ✓ benefits
- ✓ FREE exceptional training

Flash your best smile and **bring, fax or mail** your resumé and recent 2x2 photo to the:

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR FOR RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING
9/F Tower 2, The Enterprise Center
6766 Ayala Avenue corner Paseo de Roxas Makati City
Tel. no. (02) 755-1540 • Fax 755-1518
E-mail: recruitment@berkley.com.ph

Join the prestigious

PROFESSIONAL CARD SALES EXECUTIVE TEAM

of

Citibank, N.A.
Accredited Business Service Providers

and earn more than **P30,000** a month!!

What you can get:
- world-class training on professional selling skills
- full commission basis beginning at **P600** up to **P2,500** per successful Citibank Credit Card solicitation
- **PLUS fixed allowance** based on sales productivity

What you have to do:
- Attend Business Opportunity and Sales Training on May 14, 2003 from 8:00 a.m to 5:30 p.m. at 2/F Orient Square Building Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City

WANTED FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT - DIRECT HIRING

ACCOUNTANT/BOOKKEEPER - One (1)/(Female)

Candidate must possess the following:
- Minimum of three (3) years experience in general accounting
- Good technical and practical knowledge
- Good interpersonal, oral and written communication skills
- Resourceful, highly motivated and can work with minimum supervision
- Proficient in computer
- Between 25 to 35 years old
- Graduate of BS Accountancy or BSC Accounting major
- Licensed or CPA is an advantage but not required

Applicants should bring their Resumé at:
METRO STONERICH CORPORATION
Unit 2A No. 85 Timog Avenue
South Triangle, Quezon City
Tel. No. 920-1203, 920-1045

IMMEDIATE HIRING

SALES REPRESENTATIVE / WEB PROGRAMMER
- Male/Female, 21-29 years old
- Med-Tech, Pharmacy, Chemistry, Microbiology.
- Mass Communication or Marketing graduate
- With good command of English

Please submit your resumé, transcript of records and 2x2 colored picture to:
HRD Code: SRO-03 P.O. Box #100
c/o Phil. Daily Inquirer 5th Flr. Bldg. B
SM Megamall

ASTEC

Astec is the world's leading supplier of power conversion products. We feature the broadest line of standard AC/DC and DC/DC power supplies in the industry, ranging from 1 Watt to 60K Watts. If a standard product does not meet your requirement, Astec is the leader in designing and manufacturing custom power solutions. Now you can depend on one source for power conversion solutions for every application.

LEADING ENGINEER (LE)

The chosen candidates will lead a team of electrical and mechanical design engineers engaged in design of Switched-Mode Power Supply.

Job Requirements:
- Graduate of EE, ECE or CoE.
- At least 7 years of related work experience in leading a group of design engineers.
- Strong Organizational, Communication and Leadership skills
- Ability to perform electrical circuit design and analysis, mathematical formulation, and have basic SW knowledge
- Pro-active, resourceful, and highly motivated
- Team player

DESIGN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS (EE)

The chosen candidates will provide fundamental engineering support to the design team; build & test prototype samples; optimize design for manufacturability; perform failure analysis; prepare parts lists and related engineering documents.

Job Requirements:
- Graduate of EE or ECE
- At least 3 years experience in electronics design
- Familiar with PSU Safety, EMC, Manufacturing and Quality standards
- Knowledge of Windows applications, design/ simulation software
- Able to work with people from different cultures

DESIGN MECHANICAL ENGINEER (ME)

The chosen candidates will design the sheet metal and plastic packaging of the product, as well as the heatsink requirement for optimal airflow and heat transfer within the electronic assembly.

Job Requirements:
- Graduate of BS ME
- Firm grasp of the basics of machine design & drafting, material selection, manufacturing processes and heat & fluid flow
- Talent for visualizing and drawing own designs
- Strong interest in computers and CAD software
- Team player; willing to work beyond normal office hours

PCB ENGINEERS (PCB)

The chosen candidates will lay out printed circuit boards (PCB) and draw schematic diagrams using the CADENCE computer aided design (CAD) software. They will also be responsible in preparing PCB specifications, films, Gerber and drill files and other related documents.

Job Requirements:
- Graduate of EE/ECE or CoE
- Previous CAD experience an advantage
- Proficiency in Microsoft Windows applications
- Proficiency in oral and written communication
- Team player; willing to work beyond normal office hours

EMERSON
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To the right candidates, we offer highly competitive compensation package and state-of-the-art training. **THIS IS AN URGENT REQUIREMENT.** Interested candidates may apply online thru this **URL: http://www.jobstreet.com/ph/astec.htm** or send your resume with salary history, position code & picture to **THE HR MANAGER, 33/F Orient Square Building Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City not later than May 25, 2003.**

NAVITAIRE™

Technology that liberates

Airline Ticket Auditors
(Code: ATA)

Successful candidates will be responsible for reviewing airline-related transactions for international carriers.

Candidates must possess a University degree with good academic record. Airline and travel agency experience is a plus, but not required. Must be willing to work on shifts, weekends, and holidays and undergo pre-employment training (allowance provided). Must have at least 1 year Office experience. Must have good grasp of Microsoft Office products.

IT Positions

Successful candidates, depending on qualifications, may be assigned to handle either of the following:
- *to participate in the development, maintenance and support of application software components (Programmer/Analyst –Code: PDA).*
- *to establish and enforce compliance of quality standards to ensure that all information system products and services meet acceptable standards and end-user requirements (Quality Assurance Engineer – Code: QAE).*

Candidates must have working knowledge of any of the following languages: Unix, ***JAVA, C, C++, Cobol & Visual Basic programming***; University degree in Computer Science or similar discipline with good academic record; proven excellence in communication (oral and written); with good business acumen and 2-3 years working experience.

It's about the freedom we give our customer to be more efficient and profitable that makes Navitaire stand alone.

We are the leading provider of business solutions to the airline industry. With headquarters in Minneapolis, USA, Navitaire also operates offices in Salt Lake City (USA), Sydney (Australia), Prague (Europe), and Manila (Philippines).

Navitaire currently has a wide range of opportunities. We provide a challenging technical environment for talented and motivated individuals who enjoy working in a dynamic atmosphere.

Submit your resume, transcript of records, and recent picture to:

NAVITAIRE INTERNATIONAL, LLC
16F Philamlife Tower,
8767 Paseo De Roxas Street,
1226 Makati City
FAX: 830-4404
EMAIL: HR.Manila@navitaire.com
WEBSITE: www.navitaire.com

Previous applicants need not apply.

Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER JOBMarket ONLINE
www.jobmarketonline.com

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

The WOMEN'S HEALTH & SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROJECT-PARTNERSHIPS COMPONENT

a project of the Government of the Philippines, executed by the Department of Health with funding support from the European Union (EU)

The WHSMP-PC works in close collaboration with its Partners, the DOH Centers for Health Development, LGUs and NGOs, to improve the health status of women through the use of community health development techniques, which enable women at the barangay level identify and articulate their health needs and be involved in developing and implementing plans to achieve positive changes for health

The Project is currently seeking a highly qualified and experienced

Finance and Administration Section Chief

Qualifications:
The person we are looking for will have qualifications, preferably at a post graduate level, in Commerce, Business Management or another relevant area of study; as well as at least 5 years experience in senior roles in the various aspects of administrative and financial management. He/She will be responsible for the supervision and management of the Projectês financial and administrative activities of a regional office, and will demonstrate initiative, a strong commitment to excellence and a well developed sense of responsibility and integrity. A CPA license would be an advantage.
Please Note: This position is based in Cagayan de Oro

Sr. Data Base Specialist

Qualifications:
The person we are looking for will have relevant qualifications, and substantial and demonstrated experience in data base management. A knowledge of community based programs and projects and familiarity with community-generated data would be an advantage.
Please Note: This position is based in Cagayan de Oro

Community Development Specialists (2 Positions)

Qualifications:
The persons we are looking for will have relevant social science qualification and knowledge and experience in community development and womenês health, and have experience in working with community based NGOs. He/She will be responsible for the provision of technical advice and support to the Projectês partners; consequently, possession of highly developed interpersonal skills and effective communications skills is mandatory.
Please Note: These positions are based in Baguio and Legaspi

ONLY INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE SPECIFIED ABOVE SHOULD APPLY.

Interested and Qualified Applicants should submit their letter of response and a comprehensive resumé by e-mail or fax on or before 16 May 2003, to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OFFICER
Women's Health Project—Partnerships Component
5B Osmena Bldg., 1991 A. Mabini Street, Malate, Manila
Fax: (632) 536-6406 E-mail: fad-whsm@pacific.net.ph

Rustan's

urgently needs...

MERCHANDISE MANAGERS

- Female, at least 25 years old
- Graduate of a 4-year business related course preferably with excellent academic records
- With at least two (2) years work experience in the retail business in the same capacity
- Must have good communication skills
- Must be analytical, results-oriented, artistic, creative and with good fashion sense

AUDIT MANAGER/ANALYST

- Female, at least 26 years old
- Graduate of a four (4) year degree course
- With at least two (2) years actual work exposure in External/Internal Audit
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, positive work attitude, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Highly motivated, results-oriented and hardworking
- Analytical and must have good communication skills

MERCHANDISING PLANNING & CONTROL MANAGER

- Female, at least 24 years old
- Graduate of Accounting, Business Management or any business related course
- At least 2 years related work experience in the area of retail and/or merchandise planning
- Must be computer literate, analytical, systematic, trustworthy and hardworking
- With good interpersonal relationship skills and can work with minimum supervision

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

- Female, at least 25 years old
- Graduate of Management, Business Administration, Marketing, Economics or any business related course
- Preferably with at least two (2) years work experience in the retail business with focus in Marketing
- Must be good in Information Research, Project Management, Coordination & Analysis
- Must posses an analytical mind, be able to command respect and deal well with all levels in the organization
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possesses a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Must be computer literate

Those who meet the qualifications mentioned may send their comprehensive resumé with contact number, transcript of records and a recent 2x2 photo to:

RUSTAN COMMERCIAL CORPORATION
HUMAN RESOURCE & ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT DIVISION
El Mercasol Bldg.
EDSA, Mandaluyong City
(near Ortigas fly-over, beside Barrio Fiesta in EDSA)

Well, if you want a job starting May 19, 2003---

WE WANT YOU!

We need 150 CIAs by Monday, May 19th.
If you have excellent English communication skills and a winning attitude, come on by this week.
WALK-INS immediately interviewed From 10am-5pm. Mon-Fri.
HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

We are also looking for :

- **Operations Managers**
  Must have previous inbound sales and operations experience & managed a group of supervisors / team leaders
2. **Team Captains**
  1 year previous supervisory experience a must
- **Comp and Ben Associate**
  Must have 1 year previous experience a must
4. **Front Desk Associates**
  Must have excellent English communication skills
- **Recruiting Officer**
  Must have two years previous recruiting experience

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Bring or mail your updated resume with picture (please indicate the position in the upper right hand corner) to:

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31/F Discovery Centre, 25 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Monday to Friday, between 10am-5pm
Or email at: lisa.areglado@ambergrissolutions.com

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ITT Industries
Engineered for life

ITT Industries – Goulds Pumps, a U.S.-based multinational company engaged in the assembly, testing and distribution of pumps and associated equipment for the Asia Pacific Region is looking for an experienced and qualified candidate for:

ACCOUNTING MANAGER

Requirements:
- CPA
- 7 - 10 yrs. work experience in a manufacturing set-up, with PEZA experience preferred.
- Post graduate studies would be an advantage
- 30 – 40 yrs. of age
- willing to work or relocated in Calamba Laguna
- Responsible for management and corporate reporting which includes financial reporting for accruals, budgets and forecast. Oversee the overall function of Finance Department.
- Highly motivated, self starter with strong interpersonal skills
- Audit experience an advantage
- Deadline oriented

Interested applicants are invited to write in with detailed resume', current and expected salary and one recent non-returnable photograph to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
ITT Industries, Goulds Pumps, Inc.
#12 Ring Road, Light Industry & Science Park of the Phils. II
Brgy. Lamesa, Calamba City Laguna, 4027
Email add: **lyn.peres@fluids.ittind.com**

(All resumes' will be treated with strictest confidence. Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.)

Ayala Property Management Corporation

A Makati-based property management company
invites
young, dynamic, innovative and intelligent professionals
for the following positions:

NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR

- Graduate of BS in Computer Engineering/Electronics Communications Engineering or Computer Science
- With 3 years relevant experience
- With knowledge on Windows NT 4.0, Windows 2000 Server, Exchange 5.5 and Exchange 2000
- Has good understanding on structured cabling systems (CAT3/CAT5e/CAT6/Fiber Optics) and cross connection of network equipment
- Can work with minimum supervision

FACILITIES/BUILDING ENGINEERS

- Licensed Mechanical or Electrical Engineer
- With at least 1 year experience in any technical-related field
- Computer literate
- With driving skills

APPLICATION PROGRAMMER

- Graduate of BS in Computer Engineering or Computer Science
- With 3 years relevant experience
- With working knowledge on internet/intranet/extranet concepts, tools and techniques
- With knowledge on ASP3.0, ASP.net, IIS 5.0, SQL Server 2000, Access 2000, Visual Basic 5.0/6.0, Visual C++, Visual Fox Pro, VB Script, Java Script, HTML,DHTML, CSS and WML Scripting
- With knowledge on MS Frontpage 2000, Macromedia's Dreamweaver, Fireworks and Flash
- Can work with minimum supervision

INTERNAL AUDITOR

- CPA, preferably male
- With at least 6 months audit-related experience
- Background in SAP a definite advantage

Interested applicants can mail their comprehensive resumé together with a copy of their Transcript of Records, 2x2 picture and contact numbers to:

P.O. Box 259
Makati Commercial Center

Or send it in **plain text** or **MS Word 97 version** to **ecbaltazar@yahoo.com**

PHILAM GROUP OF COMPANIES

AIG
A member company of American International Group, Inc.

Customer Service & Telemarketing Associates (Ortigas)
- College graduate; Excellent communication skills
- Willing to accept a shifting job
- Possesses good analytical skill

Philam Phone Representatives (Manila)
- Graduate of any 4-year course with very good if not excellent communication skills
- Call Center or Life Insurance, Pre-need or HMO experience can be an advantage but is not preferred;
- Willing to work on shifting schedule

Training & Quality Manager (Alabang)
- Graduates of any college course preferably with at least 5 years work experience in a service industry, preferably Insurance/Financial Institutions. BPO experience is an added advantage.
- With 2-3 years experience in delivering process based training; With 3-5 years experience in a quality management position preferably with actual exposure in quality improvement projects.
- Demonstrated experience in managing process and/ or systems change in a multi-client environment.
- Strong Operations orientation and MIS, analysis and reporting
- Experience as Black Belt or Project Manager in a BPO will be an added advantage
- Strong interpersonal, communication and facilitation skills

Chief X-Ray Technician (Manila)
- Male, not over 35 years old; college graduates; licensed radiologist
- Possesses 2 to 3 years supervisory experience in related field. Knowledgeable in computers, good communication skills and service oriented

Process Trainers (Alabang)
- Graduates of any college course preferably Psychology or Behavioral Science; advance degree is a plus
- 2-3 years work experience in a service industry with line function of Training department with at least 1 year experience in delivering process based training
- Strong interpersonal, communication and facilitation skills; Proficient is basic Microsoft Software applications
- Ability to conduct trainings/meeting effectively and work with a large group/team

Process Managers (Alabang)
- Graduates of any college course with at least 8 years work experience in a service industry, preferably Insurance/Financial Services
- Minimum of 3 years experience managing back office operations in a multiple system environment out of total work experience
- Demonstrated experience managing process and/ or system change; Experience managing a multi-client environment
- Strong Operations orientation and MIS, Analysis and Reporting
- Good leadership skills; can motivate front-line employees; Can work effectively across language and cultural barriers

Supervising Artist (Manila)
- Graduate of Fine Arts, Advertising, Marketing;
- 23-27 years old; At least 2 years experience in business development
- With two years experience in advertising, publication and other related fields
- Knowledgeable in graphic design, desktop publishing and exhibit design; creative and resourceful

We are also looking for contractual employees for various regional offices: Manila, Angeles, Cebu, Naga & Davao

Be a part of the PHILAM Family !

Submit your resumé, transcript of records and photos to:
Philam.Jobs@AIG.com OR Corporate HR Makati, 23rd Floor, Philamlife Tower, Paseo de Roxas, Makati

*** PREVIOUS CANDIDATES NEEDS NOT APPLY ***

WANT A CAREER SHIFT TO I.T.?

If yes, then you are what we are looking for.

Asia Pacific College offers an opportunity for career shifters in Information Technology (IT). If you are apprehensive to enter the IT world because of your non-computer or Information Technology (IT) related college background, we can help you to become the IT professional you want to be.

We all know that companies nowadays are more sophisticated in their choices of IT professionals. And what's the surer way to build your career in IT than to have a bachelor's degree in computer studies? A bachelor's degree is a good boost to your qualifications that can provide you with a long-term opportunity for career advancement.

No, you don't have to attend another four years in college to earn your second bachelor's degree and you don't even have to sacrifice your present job for your studies. We have designed an evening / weekend degree program in two years. This program is the Bachelor of Science in Information Management (BSIM).

Through the BSIM program, you will learn the basics of computer programming all the way to the higher level training in systems analysis and design, applications development, data communications, software project management, and web development. We will not only hone your technical skills but also your managerial skills through the business and professional subjects we have included in the program.

With our up-to-date curriculum, industry-experienced instructors, state-of-the-art facilities, backed-up by strong management, you will be assured of quality education.

Be one of our highly motivated students who are already starting to make their way to a more challenging career in IT. It's never too late to shift your career in IT.

Interested? Then apply personally with your photocopy of transcript of records, photocopy of diploma, two 2"x2" colored photos and P500.00 application fee. Application going on for first trimester SY 2003-2004. Fresh graduates are welcome to apply. Classes start on May 28, 2003.

YES! Please ❑fax / ❑e-mail / ❑mail me more information about BSIM.

Full Name : (❑ Mr./ ❑ Ms.) _____

Mailing Address _____

_____ **E-mail:** _____

Tel/s. : _____ **Fax No. :** _____

Cut this coupon then mail or fax to ASIA PACIFIC COLLEGE ADMISSIONS OFFICE

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Email: admissions@apc.edu.ph • Website: www.apc.edu.ph

株式会社エプソンソフト開発センター
EPSON SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT LABORATORY, INC.

EPSON SOFTWARE PHILIPPINES (Tentative Name) is a **"START-UP"** division that will be established in CEBU within the year of 2003 as a subsidiary of Epson Software Development Laboratory, Inc. of Japan.

A company which is wholly owned by Seiko Epson Corporation of Japan will be engaged in the development of software products. We are looking for top-notch, competent, and high calibre individuals to fill-up below position as:

EVALUATION TECHNICAL LEADER

Scope of Works:

- Systems evaluation of Software Products.
- Organization, Operation, & Administration to support the whole evaluation process.

Qualifications:

- Experience of software evaluation **(Software Evaluation Technical Leader)**
- Graduate of any-4 year course.
- Male/Female, not more than 32 years old.
- Able to initiate actual evaluation works by guiding its workforce based on the evaluation programs.
- Must have excellent leadership qualities, a team-player, and with excellent interpersonal skills.
- Can speak Japanese Language is an advantage.
- Candidate MUST be willing to work in CEBU.
- Must submit copy of school transcript.

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE WILL BE TRAINED IN JAPAN FOR SIX MONTHS TO ONE YEAR.

Send or Email your resume not later than **May 25, '03** to:

EPSON SOFTWARE PHILIPPINES (Tentative Name)
c/o Takezawa Technology Transfer & Industrial Consultancy, Inc. (TTT-ICI)
Unit-E Lower Ground Floor Westgate Tower, Investment Drive Madrigal Business Park, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Or Email: ttici@axti.com, Fax: 772-1889

(ONLY QUALIFIED CANDIDATES SHALL BE CALLED FOR AN INTERVIEW)

WE NEED ONLY THE BEST

A leading and international service-oriented Company established in the country for more than 20 years is in need of dynamic and competitive individuals to be team players.

Sales & Marketing Consultants

- Female; between 25-35 years old
- College graduate with 2-3 years of relevant exposure in Sales or Marketing; experience in managerial level, an advantage
- Ambitious, results-driven and with the will to succeed
- Professional in appearance with excellent interpersonal skills
- Fluent and articulate in English and Filipino, knowledge of Chinese language, a definite advantage

Telemarketers / Receptionists

- Female; between 21-28 years old
- College graduate, with good scholastic ratings
- Previous telemarketing experience, a plus factor
- Smart, professional and highly trainable
- Possesses outstanding communication and people skills

Part-Time Medical Doctors

- Male/female; between 27-35 years old
- Trained and experienced in Dermatology, Family or Internal Medicine; those in other fields of specializations are welcome to apply
- Good built, with good skin condition and pleasing personality
- With good communication skills and PR
- Work schedule can be arranged

Nurses / Therapists

- Female; between 20-28 years old
- Graduate of BS Nursing, BS Physical /Occupational Therapy, BS Medical Technology
- Licensed/Board Passer
- Professional appearance with pleasing personality
- With good communication skills and PR
- With or without experience

IF YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES, APPLY NOW!

Qualified candidates may come personally or mail their Resume with a 2x2 photo and Transcript of Records to:
THE HRD MANAGER
7/f Singapore Airlines Bldg., 138 HV dela Costa Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City

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Vision - X Inc., Where job search ends ... And Careers Begin.

***Company:* Vision-X Inc.** is one of the most geographically and culturally diverse providers of complete Customer Interactive Centers in the world, operating four world class contact centers in both US and China. With awards and recognitions such as "The Fastest Growing Call Center in the US" and receiving the "The Product of the Year" award by both Call Center Solutions and TMC Magazines in the US, VXI continues to grow and build world class centers around the globe. VXI is launching its fifth center in Makati, Philippines in May. It is building 700 seats with plans to expand to over 3000 within a 36 month period.

Open Positions:

Position: Shift Manager

Location: RCBC Plaza, Makati City
Reports to: Operations Manager
Job code: P0061

Job Responsibilities:
- Responsible for managing the day-to-day activities of a large group of Call Center Agents/ Representatives
- Coaches, develops, supervises and mentors team leaders
- Ensures adherence to quality standards and targets

The Person:
- University graduate
- Possess at least 3 years experience in managing about 100 plus agents in an outbound call center environment
- Proficient in MS 2000, Excel, Word, ACD, Centre Vu
- Highly organized, and goal oriented
- Possess excellent communication, mentoring and coaching abilities
- Fluent in oral and written English

Position: Recruitment Officer

Location: RCBC Plaza, Makati City
Reports to: HR Manager
Job code: P0062

Job Responsibilities:
- Responsible for all recruitment activities, including but not limited to, screening, interviewing, reference verification and hiring of qualified agents.

The Person:
- University graduate
- Possess at least 2 years experience in recruitment
- Preferably with experience gained from a large, multinational, outbound call center
- Possess excellent communication, mentoring and coaching abilities
- Fluent in oral and written English

Position: Call Center Account Executives

Location: RCBC Plaza, Makati City
Job code: P0063

The Person:
- Possess at least 6 months of experience in outbound telemarketing
- Goal oriented with the desire for growth and big bucks
- Possess excellent communication skills
- Fluent in oral and written English

Position: Executive Receptionist

Location: RCBC Plaza, Makati City
Job Code: P0064

The Person:
- Professional Appearance with a pleasant voice
- Possess excellent communication skills and organizational skills
- Fluent in oral and written English
- Please send resumé with most current 2x2 Photo

Position: Training Manager

Location: RCBC Plaza, Makati City
Job Code: P0065

The Person:
- Minimum 1 year experience with an outbound multi national call center
- Extensive experience in accent reduction
- University graduate

We provide one of the most technically advanced centers designed to provide a relaxed and comfortable yet professional environment.

Come join our pioneer batch and have an excellent opportunity for growth!
Email your resumés at: recruiting.phil@vxiusa.com
Or visit us on the web at: www.vxiusa.com

CHAMP

Asian Center for Hospitality Arts & Management Philippines

PROGRAMS OFFERED:
- **Certificate in Hotel and Restaurant Operations (1 year)**
- **Diploma in Hospitality Management (2yrs)**

CAREER OPTIONS AFTER GRADUATION:
- Managers
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- Entrepreneurs
- Concierge
- Front Desk Officers
- Cooks
- Bartenders
- Food Preparation
- Food Attendants
- Waiters/Food Servers
- Butlers/Bellhops
- Housekeeping

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ENROLL NOW and reap the benefits of:
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Enrolment for First Semester SY2003-2004 is ongoing.
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For information, visit or call:
The Admissions Office, CHAP
26 Kamias Ave., Quezon City • Tel: 928-2641 to 42

DUNKIN' DONUTS
Pasalubong ng Bayan

AREA MANAGER
- Male, not more than 35 yrs. of age
- Graduate of any 4-year course
- With at least 5 years managerial experience preferably in a fast food business

SHOP MANAGER
- Male/Female; not more than 32 years of age
- Graduate of any 4 year business related course
- With at least 3 years managerial experience in any fast food establishments/quick service restaurant

AUDIT STAFF/ ACCOUNTING CLERKS
- Male/Female; 21-28 years old
- BS Accountancy graduate; have at least attended CPA review
- With experience in the same capacity
- Willing to do field works/provincial assignments

ASSISTANT CHIEF ACCOUNTANT
- Male/Female; not more than 32 yrs. old; CPA
- With at least 3 years managerial experience and adept in all aspects of Accounting operations

JR. DISTRICT CONSULTANT
- Male/Female; not more than 35 yrs. of age
- With 3 years experience in managerial/ supervisory exposure; preferably in food industry
- With knowledge in budget planning and P&L
- Excellent planning, decision making & business skills

DEVELOPMENT PLANNING ASSOCIATE
- Male/Female; not over 28 yrs of age
- With experience in searching/evaluating proposed sites
- Exposed to field works

Interested applicants are requested to apply in person or send comprehensive resumé with transcript of records, most recent ID picture, certificates/clearance(s) from previous employer to

DUNKIN' DONUTS
Personnel Department / 733 Aurora Blvd., Quezon City
(in front of old PEPSI PLANT)
EMAIL ADD: dunkindonuts@edsamail.com.ph

One Financial Group

is seeking applicants for the following positions:

Sales Manager

This person must have significant experience managing a sales team, preferably in financial services, insurance, real estate or equities.

Sales Advisers

This person must have a strong sales background, preferably in insurance, real estate or equities. This person has excellent interpersonal skills and entrepreneurial drive, is intelligent, aggressive, persistent and determined, and works well both independently and as part of a team.

One Financial Group

We are a financial services provider carrying a full range of investment, insurance and real estate products, and provide needs-based solutions for both Corporate and Personal Clients.
A career with us is based on continuous learning with an emphasis on rigorous training.

Up to the challenge?

Please e-mail, fax or send your résumé or c.v. to:
e-mail: careers@one.com.ph
phone: (63) 2 759-4205 fax: (63) 2 759-4211
address: Suite 912-914, Tower I & Exchange Plaza Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue, Makati City

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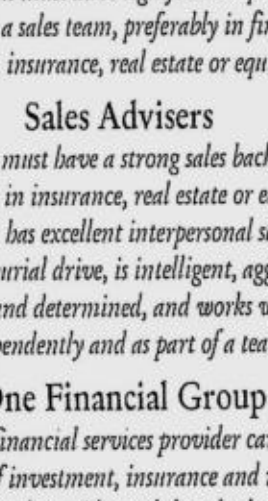

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FOR WHOM DEVELOPMENT WORK IS A CHALLENGE TO EXCEL

We represent a non-stock, non-profit organization that extends financial, technical and other developmental resource assistance to support anti-poverty, ecologically sound, economically viable & community-oriented enterprises. The Foundation is currently in need of a highly qualified

INFORMATION, CAMPAIGN & EDUCATION OFFICER

Qualifications:

- a degree in management, social sciences, education, communication arts or other related disciplines. Preference is given to graduate degree holders
- at least three (3) years progressive hands-on experience in data management and analysis, research, campaign, training and education
- Tried and tested skills in oral & written communications. Literacy in the practical applications of information and communication technology is preferred
- Willingness and capability to travel extensively to various parts of the Philippines

ASSOCIATE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Job:
The hired candidate will identify strategic constituent-groups as development partners of the Foundation and develop linkages and networks that facilitate the attainment of the Foundation's development agenda.

Qualifications:

Academic Requirements:
- Undergraduate Degree in Behavioral Sciences, or Business Management or any related field
- Post-graduate degree in Political Science or Development Economics or any related field

Knowledgeable in such areas as:
- Development Theories
- Financial Analysis
- Human Resource Management

Skills:
- Financial Analysis
- Facilitate/Communicate
- Organize/Orchestrate/Negotiate
- Ability to envision alternatives
- Diplomatic Skills
- Computer Literacy

At least five (5) years experience in development work; willing to travel extensively to various parts of the Philippines.

The Foundation offers a competitive compensation & benefits package commensurate to skill & experience.

If you believe you fit the bill, you may send your resumé with contact numbers and a recent photograph through our e-mail address: sociopreneur@hotmail.com or mail to 45E Eugenio Lopez St. cor. Samar Avenue, Quezon City or fax to Fax Nos. 928-8671 or 411-4703 loc 11. Deadline for submission is on **May 16, 2003**.

OHHIRA OMX PROBIOTICS

" Don't just save lives, but restore good health.."

Job Opportunity

Medical Sales & Marketing Executives

Must be willing to be trained, and can work with less supervision. Sales result oriented person, can manage to create, direct, and expand sales production. Articulate, has good communication skills, and with pleasing personality.

Requirements:

1. Male / Female 21 years old and above
2. College Graduate
3. Experience in field sales or as medical representative is an advantage

Business Opportunity

Provincial Distributors

Medically inclined and/or business minded person. Must be able to run business independently. Good personality traits, and can manage to handle clients/patients.

Requirements:

1. Medical doctor / practitioner
2. Businessman with medical-related business
2. With wide market access to consumers / patients
3. With existing or experience in business is an advantage

Interested parties may submit to:

OMX Marketing Philippines, Ltd., Co.

Rms. 315/317 AURO-VIR Plaza Building 1695 Evangelista St., Bangkal, Makati City
Trunklines: 843-6540 to 42 loc. 153/154, DL 750-1713 Email: omxphils@jbdnet.com

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NIPPON HOUSING PHILIPPINES INC.

is in need of:

PROPERTY MANAGER

Will be responsible for the overall management and administration of a property. Handles functional areas which includes administration, finance, technical services, safety and security, tenant relations, housekeeping and insurance. M/F, preferably graduate of Mechanical, Electrical, Civil Engineering or Accounting/Management. Ideal candidates must have at least 8 years managerial experience in property management and should possess excellent public relations/customer service orientation as well as oral & written communication skills. Exposure in condominium set up and knowledge in condominium laws are required.

PROPERTY ACCOUNTANT

Responsible for the conduct of property based accounting scope particularly preparation and submission of financial reports and maintenance of accounting records. Must have at least 2 years actual experience in all areas of general accounting, specifically financial statements preparation and bookkeeping. Background in condominium accounting is an advantage.

Due to urgency of need, interested applicants may personally submit or fax their comprehensive resumé and recent ID picture and other credentials to:

NIPPON HOUSING PHILIPPINES INC.
Unit 404-405 LaO Center, 1000 Pasay Rd. cor. Makati Ave., Makati City
Tel. No. 894-2005 Fax No. 894-2020
E-mail: nippon@qinet.net

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ENGINEERS

- o Licensed Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Chemical Engineer
- o 1 to 5 years experience; experience in plant operations, manufacturing, or structural design
- o Proficiency in computer software applications or e-procurement is an advantage

SALES

- o College graduate
- o 1-5 years sales, marketing, or sales-related experience; experience in a food, beverage, or packaging industry is an advantage
- o Aggressive, excellent communication skills
- o Willing to be relocated

Interested applicants should send their resumé with their transcript of records, and recent passport size photo to:

Recruitment
P.O. Box No. 271
Manila Post Office

(Attach picture on the upper right hand corner of your resumé and indicate the position applied for on the upper left hand corner)

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You should be a degree holder, preferably in human resources, secretarial or business-related discipline, with at least 5 years work experience as an Executive Secretary. You are required to have excellent spoken and written English language skills and be proficient in the use of the computer. The ability to relate professionally and effectively with both management and staff members is a requirement. You must also have the maturity to handle confidential information. Experience in property management is an advantage.

A competitive remuneration package and a truly challenging, international and dynamic work environment awaits the right candidate. Interested parties should send their resume and contact details to any of the following:

Corporate Human Resources
Online: career.globalsources.com
Email: gshr@globalsources.com
Fax: (632) 892 4087
Post: P.O. Box 457, MCPO, Makati City

global sources
www.globalsources.com

WANTED

SALES MANAGER
for Industrial Products

QUALIFICATIONS

- At least 25 years of age.
- College graduate, preferably with an MBA
- With proven track record in Sales and Managerial Skills.
- Communicates well in oral & written English
- Computer literate

Mail, or come personally to submit, your complete resume, transcript of records, and 2x2 photo, Mondays or Fridays 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.; Saturdays 8:00a.m. - 12nn to: Mr. Precioso David.

SFD
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Makati City

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- Production Operators

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- Sales Managers, Reps, Salesmen
- Sales Associates/Fashion Consultants
- Salesladies, Promogirls

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We are accepting applications for:

LIBRARIAN

Qualifications:
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- licensed librarian
- at least two years experience
- not more than 30 years of age
- preferably with knowledge on Athena library automation

Qualified applicants may send their resume including one passport photo to:
Personnel Department
P.O. Box 2284, Manila

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

STORE PERSONNEL

Qualifications:
- Graduate of a 4-year course
- Single, female, not more than 30 years old
- At least 5'4" in height
- Preferably with 1 year experience in sales or marketing
- Proficient in English
  - Applicants who can speak Chinese language is an advantage

ACCOUNTING MANAGER

Qualifications:
- Preferably Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- At least 3 years experience in General Accounting
- With a Supervisory/Managerial capacity
- Must be computer literate

Interested applicants are invited to visit our office at:

#125 Dangay St., Project 7, Quezon City

Inquiries may be directed to Ms. Carmina Cruz at 371-3929

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Help us grow through competency profiling, career pathing and succession planning: Your three years of leadership experience should include setting goals, coaching, mentoring and performance assessment.

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You know customer service training. You have 2 years' experience analyzing training needs; designing competency-based, culture and values training programs, and you have strong managerial and leadership skills.

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Take the lead as the head of a sales, technical support or customer service team. We're looking for one year's experience as a coach, mentor or manager.

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Human firewall wanted to ensure the security of client and company information and resources. One year of experience evaluating and designing IT and network security processes is required.

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Analyze this! Analytical skills needed to help us meet client demands through shift scheduling and capacity planning. One year of experience in workforce management is required.

DATA NETWORK SPECIALIST
You have the expertise in setting up computer networks, workstations, servers, and other peripheral devices. Two years of work experience is required. Microsoft Certified Professionals are preferred.

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Use your knack for computers to troubleshoot hardware and software problems for one of the world's top desktop PC makers.

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Work with our internal and external customers in troubleshooting network faults and develop technical solutions during all levels of a system life cycle. Two years of LAN/WAN engineering experience is required.

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Be responsible for defining, developing and customizing applications for call center end users. Two years experience in SQL programming, MS-Access, Visual Basics, and/or ODBC is required.

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Configure and support our telecom infrastructure. Two years experience with Lucent Definity installation and maintenance, including programming vectors is required.

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CHIEF ACCOUNTANT
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ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
- With selling experience in Packaging, Printing or similar industry, not more than 30 years old; a Business, Marketing or any related course graduate, aggressive, highly motivated, results oriented and has a strong desire for excellence; must know how to drive

ACCOUNTING STAFF
- Accounting course graduate; has working knowledge and experience in Cost Accounting and Disbursement; not more than 35 years old; computer literate, hardworking, dependable, has strong desire for excellence.

QA INSPECTOR
- Graduate of Chemical Engineering or any science course such as BS Chemistry or allied sciences preferred; working knowledge in an offset/rotogravure Printing orientations in Quality Assurance or ISO an advantage; strong desire for quality and excellence; must be willing to work on a nightshift; Not more than 30 years old.

GRAPHIC ARTIST
- With working knowledge of graphic design software, knowledge in Macintosh operations an advantage, not more than 35 years old; must be highly creative, a team player and willing to work overtime, with a Degree in Fine Arts or any equivalent course.

NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR
- Degree in Computer Science, IT, Computer Engineering, 2 years work experience in Windows NT & 2000 setup, maintenance and administration, knowledge in TCP/IP, remote access, WAN, IIS, Network Cabling and structures, Windows 9x, XP and DOS; knowledge in website development and maintenance, Java, Visual Basic 6.0, SQL and ACCESS an advantage; male, single not more than 25 years old.

COMPUTER TECHNICIAN
- BS in Computer Science, IT, Computer Engineering, Computer Technician Course; 2 years experience in computer set-up, maintenance, troubleshooting and repair in a network environment, knowledge in Network Cabling, DOT Matrix, inkjet and DeskJet printers repair, knowledge in Windows 9x, XP and MS Office Applications; male, single not more than 25 years old.

ROTOGRAVURE OPERATOR/ASST. ROTOGRAVURE OPERATOR/AND ROTOGRAVURE HELPER
- Graduate of any Engineering or any technical vocational course is preferred; hardworking, highly motivated, results oriented, and has a strong desire for quality excellence, experience is an advantage

SLITTER REWINDER OPERATOR
- Graduate of any Engineering, Mechanical/Electrical or any vocational technical course is preferred, with at least 2 to 4 years experience as Slitter Rewinder Operator.

COLOR MATCHING TECHNICIAN
- BS Chemistry or Chemical Engineering graduate; experience in ink formulation an advantage

SET-UP CREW/DOCTORING REWINDING OPERATOR
- Graduate of any engineering or any vocational technical course, experience is an advantage.

DIE-CUTTING/ SHEETER MACHINE OPERATOR
- Graduate of any Engineering course or any vocational technical course is preferred; not more than 28 years old, highly motivated, results-oriented, and has a strong desire for quality and excellence, experience is an advantage.

Interested applicants are requested to send their resumé to:

Box No. KA-003-03 UG
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F Trinity Bldg.
636 TM Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila

Send your resumé instantly.

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- *Must be enthusiastic and enjoys meeting people*
- *Not more than 40 years old*

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- *College graduate, preferably of BS HRM / HRA, Marketing or similar field*
- *With 3-5 years direct experience in selling wines and spirit to restaurants and hotels*
- *Must be enthusiastic and familiar with various types of wines*
- *Not more than 40 years old*

Attractive compensation and commission packages will be given to successful candidates.

Qualified applicants are requested to send or e-mail their resume with photo to:

Ms. Armela Cruz
Recruitment & Training Group
U-BIX CORPORATION
1331 Angono St., Makati City
E-mail Address: hrd@ubix.com.ph
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PASTRY CHEFS
• Preferably Hotel & Restaurant major or with at least 2 years work experience in an upscale pastry shop • Artistic & specializes in cake decorating • Knowledgeable of all menu, frozen dessert related product line available, care of product quality, temperature and handling procedures.

SHOP ASSISTANTS
(Part-Time/Full-Time)
• Male (at least 5'6" in height) or Female (at least 5'4" in height) • At least College level • Must be presentable and with excellent communication skills.

CASHIER
• Female, not more than 28 years old • At least college level • With previous experience as Cashier in a restaurant or food industry/business • Must be presentable and with excellent communication skills.

INTERESTED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO PERSONALLY SUBMIT THEIR UPDATED RESUMÉ AND RECENT 2x2 PICTURE NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 20, 2002 TO:
PINNACLE EQUITY VENTURES, INC.
HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT, UNIT 2401-B WEST TOWER, P.S.E.C. BLDG.,
(TEKTITE TOWERS) EXCHANGE ROAD, ORTIGAS CENTER, PASIG CITY
TEL. NOS. : 631-0077 / 631-0109 E-MAIL : hrd.hdmd@newmail.net

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RAMCAR GROUP OF COMPANIES

Invites World-Class Applicants for the following Job Opportunities:

ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN
- Male, 25-35 years old; Trade school graduate in Industrial Electronics or at least 3 years in ECE.
- With at least 2-3 years related work experience in manufacturing concerns.
- Place of Assignment: Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

INVENTORY CONTROLLER
- Male/Female, 22-32 years old; preferably Industrial Engineering graduate.
- With experience in logistics – planning, warehousing or distribution.
- Computer literate and with good communication skills.
- Willing to be assigned in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

PLANT NURSE
- Male, 25-31 years old; must be a Registered Nurse.
- With experience in Industrial/Occupational Nursing.
- Computer literate with good leadership and communication skills.
- Willing to be assigned in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

CHEMIST
- Male/Female, 26-28 years old; graduate of B.S. Chemistry.
- Must have at least 2-3 years exposure in chemical plant analysis and preferably with previous work experience in sulfuric acid plant.

SHIFT SUPERVISORS
- Male/Female, 25-30 years old; graduate of B.S. Chemical Engineering.
- Must have at least 2-3 years experience in chemical/sulfuric acid plant operations.
- With very good analytical, communication and leadership skills.

QUALITY SYSTEMS ENGINEER & Q.A. SUPERVISOR
- Male/Female, 21-30 years old; B.S. M.E./ChE or Statistics graduate.
- Must have at least 2 years related work experience as Q.S./Q.A. Engineer preferably in a large manufacturing concern.
- Must have exposure on ISO 9000/14000, SPC, TQM, 5S, Kaizen and other Quality Systems.
- Excellent communication and leadership skills.

SAFETY OFFICER
- Male, 25-40 years old; BS M.E. or E.E. graduate. License required.
- MUST have at least 5 years related work experience as Safety Officer/Engineer in a manufacturing set-up.
- Must have excellent leadership and communication skills.
- Willing to be based in Sta. Maria, Bulacan.

SALES TRAINING ASSISTANT
- Male, 23-30 years old; Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or Business course.
- Pref. with at least 1 year experience in Sales Training (preparation of sales training modules and related tasks).
- Must possess excellent communication, interpersonal and leadership skills.

MERCHANDISING SERVICES ASSOCIATE
- Male, 21-25 years old; College graduate.
- Organized, with good communication skills and knowledgeable on MS Office Applications.
- Will be responsible in assisting the Brand Management Group in various activities.
- Willing to do field work and preferably with valid Driver's License.

ACCOUNTING STAFF ASSISTANTS
- Male/Female, 21-24 years old; preferably Certified Public Accountant (CPA).
- With good scholastic records from reputable schools.
- Pref. with previous work experience in accounting; however, fresh graduates with good potentials are also welcome to apply.
- Computer literate with good communication and presentation skills.

ANALYST/PROGRAMMER TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEERS NETWORK ENGINEER
- Male, 23-30 years old; Graduate of any IT-related course with good scholastic records.
- With at least 1 year related work experience in the given IT field.
- Highly computer literate and with excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Willing to work long hours.

HELPDESK STAFF
- Male, 21-28 years old; Graduate of any IT-related course.
- FRESH Graduates can be considered.
- Willing to work long hours and on shifting schedule.
- Highly computer literate and with excellent communication skills.

WE OFFER ATTRACTIVE COMPENSATION & BENEFITS PACKAGE.

ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO APPLY PERSONALLY WITH THEIR RESUMÉ, 2X2 PICTURE AND T.O.R. TO:

CORPORATE RECRUITMENT SECTION (BATTERY GROUP)
RAMCAR CENTER
80-82 Roces Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
E-mail: ebmuscat@motolite.com

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A premier marketing research organization in the Philippines in terms of credibility with clients, professionalism of people and quality of service, has an immediate opening of:

HR ASSISTANT

The successful candidate shall be tasked to provide HR support functions which include recruitment, employment, benefits administration, training and development and employee relations. This position is open to those equipped with the following qualifications:

* Graduates of Psychology, Human Resources, Behavioral Sciences, preferably not more than
* With 3 years minimum experience in HR management and administration
* Proficient in oral and written English communication
* Computer literate

Competencies:

* Pursuit of excellence for quality and continuous learning
* Purposeful and managed sense of urgency
* Thought leadership and forward-looking perspective
* Knowledge and understanding of client business environment and culture

THIS IS AN URGENT REQUIREMENT!
Please send your comprehensive resumés with recent photos and transcript of records to
P.O. 1578 Code 1155 Q.C.
E-mail: **mb_hrd@hotmail.com**
ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE NOTIFIED

WANTED: DRAFTSMAN

- Are you a **high school graduate**?
- Are you aspiring to become a full-fledged productive professional?
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If your answer to all these questions is **YES**, and you have **drafting** and **architectural** skills, we are proud to offer you accelerated professional development and vast career opportunities!

If you are:
- at least 18 years old
- willing to work long and hard in a rigorous business environment
- willing to learn
- with basic reading, writing and arithmetic skills
- trustworthy and personable

Interested applicants may submit their bio-data and I.D. photo to:

HRD
41st Floor, Rufino Pacific Tower
6784 Ayala Avenue, Makati City

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE

The new Job Market, the only classifieds section that helps increase your chances of getting hired, now gives you a chance to win a trendy eBookMan -- a handheld multi-media device that stores library of ebooks, music, audio-books, daily news & other essential information which are retrievable at your fingertips...anytime. It also functions as a PDA and voice recorder. From April 20 to July 06, a crossword puzzle will appear every Sunday in the Job Market. Fill up the puzzle completely and correctly using the clues given. Every week, five (5) winners will be drawn in which each will receive gift certificates to reputable computer schools for courses that will boost your credentials when you apply for a job. All the weekly winners will then vie for an eBookMan in the two major grand draws on May 12 and July 6. So are you up to the challenge? Read the new Job Market Crossword Challenge!

STI Make it happen.

Get more chances to win online! Simply visit www.jobmarketonline.com where the puzzle is posted from Monday to Thursday. Just print, fill up and send as many entries as you wish!

PROMO MECHANICS

1. The promotion is open to all Inquirer Job Market readers nationwide as well as visitors of jobmarketonline. com.
2. For 12 consecutive Sundays (from April 20 to June 29) every Job Market issue will have a crossword puzzle cum entry form published on the section's 2nd page asking questions about the job placement ads and the editorial content of the Job Market. Each week will feature a different set of questions and puzzle.
3. Readers are tasked to complete the puzzle using the job placement ads and articles that came out in the same issue as clues, and write their name, address, telephone number and signature on the space provided for in the entry form.
4. The same puzzle, questions and entry form can also be found in the jobmarketonline website from Monday to Thursday of the following week.
5. To join through jobmarketonline, visitors must print out the puzzle/entry form found on the website and fill it up manually. Only printed versions of the said puzzle/entry form are valid. No photocopies allowed.
6. Puzzle/entry forms (newspaper cut-outs for print entries and computer print outs for website entries) must then be placed inside a white legal size envelope and mailed to "The Job Market Crossword Challenge" c/o Job Market, Philippine Daily Inquirer Chino Roces Avenue cor. Yague and Mascardo sts., 1230 Makati City. Each complete puzzle/entry form serves as a single official entry during which the winners (5) will be drawn every week to receive the following:
   Gift certificates from any of the following computer schools: NIIT, STI, Informatics, Genetics and New Horizon.
7. Only entries with complete & correct puzzles are considered valid. All entries for the week (provincial and GMA) must be received by 5pm Friday of the following week to qualify for the weekly draw to be held every Monday after the submission deadline.
8. There would be a total of twelve (12) weekly draws divided into two (2) phases, each comprise of four (4), the other seven (7) and one (1) grand draw.
   Raffle draw details are as follows

DATE INCLUSIVE	SUBMISSION DEADLINE	GRAND DRAW	VENUE
April 20 to May 4	May 9	May 12	Glorietta
May 18 to June 29	July 4	July 6	PDI Office

9. An individual may send more than one (1) entry (for both print and online entries) but may only win once in every weekly draw. Non-winning entries for each particular draw will be disqualified in the succeeding draw. All weekly draws will be held at the Philippine Daily Inquirer office at 3:00 pm in the presence of a DTI rep.
10. Only the thirty (30) weekly draw winners will qualify for each of the 2 grand draws wherein one winner will receive the prize.
11. Raffle prizes are non-transferable and not convertible to cash.
12. Winners will be notified via registered mail and telephone. Name of the weekly winners will be published in the Job Market and posted in jobmarket online every week.
13. Winners can claim their prizes at the PDI office upon presentation of the notification letter and valid ID (driver's license, TIN, SSS or Passport).
14. Raffle prizes not claimed within 60 days from receipt of notification will be forfeited in favor of PDI with prior approval from DTI.
15. Employees & staff of PDI, their ad agency & their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity & affinity are disqualified from joining the promo.

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Strengthening the Foundations of Lasting Peace and Development in Southern Philippines - PHI/01/001

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) is inviting applicants who can qualify for National UN Volunteer posts for the Government of the Philippines-United Nations/Multi-Donor Program (GoP-UN/MDP3), a peace and development programme in Southern Philippines.

SPECIALIST ON COMMODITY DELIVERY SYSTEM

Reports directly to the Relief and Rehab Component Manager and shall:
1) Review and enhance the current delivery, monitoring and reporting system of the Food for Work in war affected communities
2) Provide inputs in the assessment of construction processes of shelter units based on negotiated house design standards, and other specifications;
3) Coordinate with other Task Force inter-agency members and the local government units;
4) Prepare and submit periodic report to the Component Manager
5) Provide technical inputs in the preservation of ecological integrity for shelter sites
6) Facilitate promotion of the culture of volunteerism by organizing more volunteer activities in their area of assignment in collaboration with the UNV County Office in Manila; and,
7) Perform such other related functions as may be deemed necessary and appropriate.

Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's degree; at least 3-years experience in relief and rehabilitation intervention in conflict areas; experienced in networking and linkaging with agencies of government, local and international NGOs; and must be computer-literate.

SPECIALIST ON RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

Reporting directly to the Component Manager, the NUNV Training Specialist shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
1) Coordinate capability building program of the Component for the strengthening of the local disaster mechanisms at the barangay, municipal and provincial level.
2) Establish network with government and non-government organizations to ensure complementation in the capability building program for emergency response agencies operating in Southern Philippines.
3) Develop training modules for disaster response management.
4) Facilitate the conduct of psycho-social intervention for traumatized children and other vulnerable groups in complex emergency situation
5) Facilitate promotion of the culture of volunteerism by organizing more volunteer activities in their area of assignment in collaboration with the UNV County Office in Manila; and
6) Perform such other related functions as may be deemed necessary and appropriate.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in social-science disciplines; minimum two (2) years experience in community development in Peace and Development Communities (PDCs) and other post-conflict areas in Mindanao; experience on participatory development planning process and governance, with good knowledge on culture of peace and traditional systems of resolving conflicts in the PDCs, networking and linkaging, right-based and results-based management, project cycle management (planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation); and must be computer-literate.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AREA COORDINATOR

Under the overall supervision of the RH Component Manager and immediate supervision of the Regional Secretary of DOH-ARMM, Provincial Health Officer of Maguindanao, the RH Area Coordinator shall perform the following duties and responsibilities:

1) Serves as the link between the MDP3, LGUs and the Peace and Development Communities (PDCs) in the implementation of RH activities;
2) Works in partnership with the Health Service Providers and other stakeholders in assessing RH situation in the PDCs;
3) Networks with GAs, NGOs and other CSOs for the effective implementation of RH activities in the PDCs;
4) Prepares RH workplan in consultation with partner agencies/offices and community stakeholders;
5) Coordinates with Health Service Providers and community volunteers and Religious Leaders for organizing and mobilizing women, men and adolescents in the PDCs for RH activities;
6) Facilitates consultative meetings and community assemblies with local organizations;
7) Coordinates with the regional, provincial and city/municipal offices/agencies for RH-capability building activities;
8) Coordinates with other MDP3 components for efficient and effective programme implementations;
9) Monitors the implementation of workplans vis-à-vis the logframe targets;
10) Facilitate promotion of the culture of volunteerism by organizing more volunteer activities in their area of assignment in collaboration with the UNV County Office in Manila; and,
11) Perform other duties that may be required by the Component Manager.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in health or other health-related or social-science related disciplines; at least two years of health-related experience preferably in reproductive health with strong background in community organizing and must be computer-literate.

Preferably applicants should come from Mindanao, are familiar with the culture, history and current situation in Southern Philippines, and able to converse and write in any of the local dialects. For Reproductive Health post, applicants should preferably come from Maguindanao, are familiar with Maguindanao culture, history and current situation, and able to converse and write in the Maguindanaoan dialect.

All application letters with comprehensive resume should reach our office on or before 16 May 2003. Address applications to the United Nations Volunteers, Room 210, 2/F NEDA sa Makati Building, 106 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City (via courier) or P.O. Box 7285 Domestic Airport Post Office Lock Box, 1300 Domestic Road, Pasay City (via airmail); Fax no. +63-2-812-8657; email to beatriz.fernandez@undp.org. Only shortlisted candidates will be acknowledged.

IMMEDIATE HIRING

TRAINING SUPERVISOR
- Female, between 28 to 35 years old
- Graduate of Behavioral Science or Education
- At least 2-3 years experience as Training Officer
- Skilled in the design of training modules
- Responsible, trustworthy, can work well under pressure, highly analytical and attentive to details
- Strong supervisory & interpersonal skills
- Computer literate

TELEPHONE OPERATOR/CANVASSER
- Single/College graduate from reputable school
- Female not more than 30 years old
- Good communication skills
- At least 2-3 years of experience in switchboard operations
- With pleasing personality and pleasant voice

RECRUITMENT CLERK – STA. ROSA, LAGUNA
- Male, not more than 37 years old
- AB or BS Psychology graduate
- Well-rounded experience in personnel work with strong emphasis on manpower sourcing/recruitment, employee benefits and 21 file records maintenance and upkeep
- Familiar with a computerized employee personnel information system (EPIS)
- Good in oral and communication skills
- Can prepare reports related assigned functional areas
- Computer literate

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT
- Male, 25 to 30 years old
- Graduate of any business course from reputable school
- At least two (2) years experience in research and development
- Proficient in written communication
- Results-oriented and with strong sense of commitment

WAREHOUSE HELPER – STA. ROSA, LAGUNA
- Male, not more than 35 years old
- College graduate
- With experience in warehouse management and procedures
- Good knowledge in inventory, receiving & issuing of materials, preparation of reports

Qualified applicants may send their application letter, comprehensive resumé indicating telephone/cell phone nos., recently taken 2x2 ID pictures, photocopy of transcript of records and other credentials to:

KA-014-02-CS
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classified Ads Division
G/F Trinity Bldg., #636 T.M. Kalaw St.
Ermita, Manila
E-mail: jml@inquirer.com.ph
Subject: CS

New York Call Center

Account Managers
- Must have at least one year experience in the field of sales/ account management
- Must possess strong leadership skills
- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend).

Outbound Sales Agents
- 20 to 27 years old with outgoing personality
- Willing to work shifts (night/day or weekend)
- Basic computer knowledge
- Fresh graduates are welcome

SEND YOUR RESUMÉS WITH PICTURE TO:
armi@nytelecon.com or armi406@yahoo.com
P.O. Box 892 Dasmariñas Village, Makati City

Join the company with a Total Human Development Program

SALON SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT INC.

HRD MANAGER
-not more than 30 yrs. old
-experience in benefits & compensation necessary
ACCOUNTING MANAGER
-not more than 36 yrs. old
-CPA, at least 2 years experience, computer literate
BOOKKEEPER
-not more than 25 yrs. old
-BS Accounting graduate, computer literate
FRONTLINERS
- female, 20-30 yrs. old & at least 5"1' in height
-graduate of any 4-year course, fluent in English
-willing to be trained, with pleasing personality, customer oriented & cheerful, background in sales is a plus

REQUIREMENTS: resume w/ picture, NBI & Barangay Clearance, Transcript of Records

For Inquiries: 813-0459/812-4864/813-0240 loc 102/103

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the country's leading office systems provider announces its job openings nationwide...

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SALES EXECUTIVES
(For Metro Manila, Calabarzon, Angeles, Cebu, Iloilo, Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro, Davao, General Santos)

Will be responsible for promoting and selling digital copiers and printers

- Graduate of any business course from a reputable school
- Preferably with at least two years experience in selling office machines and equipment; a good working knowledge in computer operation, applications and networking are major advantages
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Assertive and self-motivated
- Male/Female, not more than 30 years old

Competitive compensation, high commission and a rewarding professional career await successful candidates

Qualified applicants are requested to send or e-mail their resume with photo to:

Ms. Armela Cruz
Recruitment & Training Group
U-BIX CORPORATION
1331 Angono St., Makati City
E-mail Address: hrd@ubix.com.ph
Previous applicants need not apply.

Konica EPSON RISO okamura

INFONXX "The Vision, the Value, the Voice of Information"

Customer Service Representatives

As a Customer Service Representative for InfoNXX, you will be responsible for handling customer calls in a timely manner, provide consistent, high quality service and accurate information to customers.

Requirements:
- Bachelor's degree
- Able to type 17 wpm
- Better than average spelling skills
- Good customer service skills
- Excellent English communication skills
- Willing to work in a shifting schedule

Interested applicants are invited to visit us at 9:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m., Mondays thru Fridays for an interview. Our office is located at the 11th Floor, RCBC Plaza Tower II, Ayala Avenue cor. Sen Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

Founded in 1991, INFONXX has been organized from the beginning to respond to highly specific information needs. We've developed a suite of enhanced information solutions not available from traditional DA providers. This success is based on superior technology, exacting quality control, and uncompromising standards of customer service. Our agents undergo constant intensive screening, training and monitoring to ensure that these standards are always maintained. Solutions from INFONXX have generated dramatic usage increases. INFONXX now handles more than 13 million enhanced directory assistance calls a month as we have aggressively expanded our service.

INFONXX (Philippines), Inc.
11th Flr. RCBC Plaza Tower 2, Ayala Ave., cor Sen. Gil Puyat, Makati City
E-mail address: ph_jobs@infonxx.com; Tel. No. (+632)758-1800

NISSAN NORTH EDSA BALINTAWAK

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(NISSAN NORTH EDSA)
AND GET A CHANCE TO TRAVEL ABROAD FOR **FREE!!!**

WE NEED:

SALES PROFESSIONALS

Male or Female, 20-28 years old
With dynamic character, strong and pleasing personality, Chinese speaking is an advantage, High-line professional with good oral and written communication skills.

Qualified applicants will receive competitive salary plus unlimited commission.

Apply in person with resumé & 2x2 photo at:
1174 EDSA, BALINTAWAK, QUEZON CITY
Tel. No. 330-5331 to 50 & look for Mr. Dindo Aquino

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES

A foreign branch of a British marketing company, based in San Fernando, Pampanga, urgently requires experienced Customer Service Representatives for its call center operations.

The successful candidates must have previous call center experience, fluency in English and Tagalog (both spoken and written), computer literate and possess a pleasing personality.

The company offers a competitive salary, excellent working conditions and relevant training will be provided.

Submit your resumé and passport size photograph by mail to The Manager, Nexus Business Solutions, 3rd Floor, Rongui Building, #1 McArthur Highway, Telabastagan, San Fernando, Pampanga or by e-mail to Charlene.mallari@nexusplc.com no later than 20th May 2003.

JOB Market ONLINE VISIT US AT **www.jobmarketonline.com**

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The new Job Market, the only classifieds section that helps increase your chances of getting hired, now gives you a chance to win a trendy eBookMan -- a handheld multi-media device that stores library of ebooks, music, audio-books, daily news & other essential information which are retrievable at your fingertips...anytime. It also functions as a PDA and voice recorder. From April 20 to July 06, a crossword puzzle will appear every Sunday in the Job Market. Fill up the puzzle completely and correctly using the clues given. Every week, five (5) winners will be drawn in which each will receive gift certificates to reputable computer schools for courses that will boost your credentials when you apply for a job. All the weekly winners will then vie for an eBookMan in the two major grand draws on May 12 and July 6. So are you up to the challenge? Read the new Job Market Crossword Challenge!

STI
Make it happen

Get more chances to win online! Simply visit www.jobmarketonline.com where the puzzle is posted from Monday to Thursday. Just print, fill up and send as many entries as you want.

PROMO MECHANICS

1. The promotion is open to all Inquirer Job Market readers nationwide as well as visitors of jobmarketonline com
2. For 12 consecutive Sundays (from April 20 to June 29) every Job Market issue will have a crossword puzzle cum entry form published on the section's 2nd page asking questions about the job placement ads and the editorial content of the Job Market. Each week will feature a different set of questions and puzzle
3. Readers are tasked to complete the puzzle using the job placement ads and articles that came out in the same issue as clues, and write their name, address, telephone number and signature on the space provided for in the entry form
4. The same puzzle, questions and entry form can also be found in the jobmarketonline website from Monday to Thursday of the following week
5. To join through jobmarketonline, visitors must print out the puzzle/entry form found on the website and fill it up manually. Only printed versions of the said puzzle/entry form are valid. No photocopies allowed
6. Puzzle/entry forms (newspaper cut-outs for print entries and computer print outs for website entries) must then be placed inside a white legal size envelope and mailed to "The Job Market Crossword Challenge" c/o Job Market, Philippine Daily Inquirer Chino Roces Avenue cor. Yague and Mascardo sts., 1230 Makati City. Each complete puzzle/entry form serves as a single official entry during which the winners (5) will be drawn every week to receive the following:
   Gift certificates from any of the following computer schools: NIIT, STI, Informatics, Genetics and New Horizon.
7. Only entries with complete & correct puzzles are considered valid. All entries for the week (provincial and GMA) must be received by 5pm Friday of the following week to qualify for the weekly draw to be held every Monday after the submission deadline
8. There would be a total of twelve (12) weekly draws divided into two (2) phases, each comprise of four (4), the other seven (7) and one (1) grand draw
   Raffle draw dates are as follows:

DATE INCLUSIVE	SUBMISSION DEADLINE	GRAND DRAW	VENUE
April 20 to May	May 9	Ma,	Glorietta
May 18 to June 29	July 4	July 6	PDI Office

9. An individual may send more than one (1) entry (for both print and online entries) but may only win once at every weekly draw. Non-winning entries for each particular draw will be disqualified in the succeeding draw. All weekly draws will be held at the Philippine Daily Inquirer office at 3:00 pm in the presence of a DTI rep
10. Only the thirty (30) weekly draw winners will qualify for each of the 2 grand draw wherein one winner will receive the prize
11. Raffle prizes are non-transferable and not convertible to cash
12. Winners will be notified via registered mail and telephone. Name of the weekly winners will be published in the Job Market and posted in jobmarket online every week
13. Winners can claim their prizes at the PDI office upon presentation of the notification letter and valid ID (drive- license, TIN, SSS or Passport)
14. Raffle prizes not claimed within 90 days from receipt of notification will be forfeited in favor of PDI with prior approval from DTI
15. Employees & staff of PDI, their ad agency & their relatives up to the 2nd degree of consanguinity & affinity are disqualified from [illegible]

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Strengthening the Foundations of Lasting Peace and Development in Southern Philippines - PHI/01/001

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) is inviting applicants who can qualify for National UN Volunteer posts for the Government of the Philippines-United Nations/Multi-Donor Program (GoP-UN/MDP3), a peace and development programme in Southern Philippines

SPECIALIST ON COMMODITY DELIVERY SYSTEM

Reports directly to the Relief and Rehab Component Manager and shall:
1) Review and enhance the current delivery, monitoring and reporting system of the Food for Work in war affected communities
2) Provide inputs in the assessment of construction processes of shelter units based on negotiated house design standards, and other specifications;
3) Coordinate with other Task Force inter-agency members and the local government units;
4) Prepare and submit periodic report to the Component Manager
5) Provide technical inputs in the preservation of ecological integrity for shelter sites
6) Facilitate promotion of the culture of volunteerism by organizing more volunteer activities in their area of assignment in collaboration with the UNV County Office in Manila; and,
7) Perform such other related functions as may be deemed necessary and appropriate.

Minimum Qualifications: Bachelor's degree; at least 3-years experience in relief and rehabilitation intervention in conflict areas; experienced in networking and linkaging with agencies of government, local and international NGOs; and must be computer-literate.

SPECIALIST ON RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

Reporting directly to the Component Manager, the NUNV Training Specialist shall have the following duties and responsibilities:
1) Coordinate capability building program of the Component for the strengthening of the local disaster mechanisms at the barangay, municipal and provincial level.
2) Establish network with government and non-government organizations to ensure complementation in the capability building program for emergency response agencies operating in Southern Philippines.
3) Develop training modules for disaster response management.
4) Facilitate the conduct of psycho-social intervention for traumatized children and other vulnerable groups in complex emergency situation
5) Facilitate promotion of the culture of volunteerism by organizing more volunteer activities in their area of assignment in collaboration with the UNV County Office in Manila; and
6) Perform such other related functions as may be deemed necessary and appropriate.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in social-science disciplines; minimum two (2) years experience in community development in Peace and Development Communities (PDCs) and other post-conflict areas in Mindanao; experience on participatory development planning process and governance, with good knowledge on culture of peace and traditional systems of resolving conflicts in the PDCs, networking and linkaging, right-based and results-based management, project cycle management (planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation); and must be computer-literate.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AREA COORDINATOR

Under the overall supervision of the RH Component Manager and immediate supervision of the Regional Secretary of DOH-ARMM, Provincial Health Officer of Maguindanao, the RH Area Coordinator shall perform the following duties and responsibilities:

1) Serves as the link between the MDP3, LGUs and the Peace and Development Communities (PDCs) in the implementation of RH activities;
2) Works in partnership with the Health Service Providers and other stakeholders in assessing RH situation in the PDCs;
3) Networks with GAs, NGOs and other CSOs for the effective implementation of RH activities in the PDCs;
4) Prepares RH workplan in consultation with partner agencies/offices and community stakeholders;
5) Coordinates with Health Service Providers and community volunteers and Religious Leaders for organizing and mobilizing women, men and adolescents in the PDCs for RH activities;
6) Facilitates consultative meetings and community assemblies with local organizations;
7) Coordinates with the regional, provincial and city/municipal offices/agencies for RH-capability building activities;
8) Coordinates with other MDP3 components for efficient and effective programme implementations;
9) Monitors the implementation of workplans vis-à-vis the logframe targets;
10) Facilitate promotion of the culture of volunteerism by organizing more volunteer activities in their area of assignment in collaboration with the UNV County Office in Manila; and,
11) Perform other duties that may be required by the Component Manager.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in health or other health-related or social-science related disciplines; at least two years of health-related experience preferably in reproductive health with strong background in community organizing and must be computer-literate.

Preferably applicants should come from Mindanao, are familiar with the culture, history and current situation in Southern Philippines, and able to converse and write in any of the local dialects. For Reproductive Health post, applicants should preferably come from Maguindanao, are familiar with Maguindanao culture, history and current situation, and able to converse and write in the Maguindanaoan dialect.

All application letters with comprehensive resume should reach our office on or before 16 May 2003. Address applications to the United Nations Volunteers, Room 210, 2/F NEDA sa Makati Building, 106 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City (via courier) or P.O. Box 7285 Domestic Airport Post Office Lock Box, 1300 Domestic Road, Pasay City (via airmail); Fax no. +63-2-812-8657; email to beatriz.fernandez@undp.org. Only shortlisted candidates will be acknowledged.

IMMEDIATE HIRING

TRAINING SUPERVISOR
- Female, between 28 to 35 years old
- Graduate of Behavioral Science or Education
- At least 2-3 years experience as Training Officer
- Skilled in the design of training modules
- Responsible, trustworthy, can work well under pressure, highly analytical and attentive to details
- Strong supervisory & interpersonal skills
- Computer literate

TELEPHONE OPERATOR/CANVASSER
- Single/College graduate from reputable school
- Female not more than 30 years old
- Good communication skills
- At least 2-3 years of experience in switchboard operations
- With pleasing personality and pleasant voice

RECRUITMENT CLERK – STA. ROSA, LAGUNA
- Male, not more than 37 years old
- AB or BS Psychology graduate
- Well-rounded experience in personnel work with strong emphasis on manpower sourcing/recruitment, employee benefits and 21 file records maintenance and upkeep
- Familiar with a computerized employee personnel information system (EPIS)
- Good in oral and communication skills
- Can prepare reports related assigned functional areas
- Computer literate

TECHNICAL ASSISTANT
- Male, 25 to 30 years old
- Graduate of any business course from reputable school
- At least two (2) years experience in research and development
- Proficient in written communication
- Results-oriented and with strong sense of commitment

WAREHOUSE HELPER – STA. ROSA, LAGUNA
- Male, not more than 35 years old
- College graduate
- With experience in warehouse management and procedures
- Good knowledge in inventory, receiving & issuing of materials, preparation of reports

Qualified applicants may send their application letter, comprehensive resumé indicating telephone/cell phone nos., recently taken 2x2 ID pictures, photocopy of transcript of records and other credentials to:

KA-014-02-CS
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classified Ads Division
G/F Trinity Bldg., #636 T.M. Kalaw St.
Ermita, Manila
E-mail: jml@inquirer.com.ph
Subject: CS

New York Call Center

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armi@nytelecon.com or armi406@yahoo.com
P.O. Box 892 Dasmariñas Village, Makati City

Join the company with a Total Human Development Program

SALON SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT INC.

HRD MANAGER
-not more than 30 yrs. old
-experience in benefits & compensation necessary
ACCOUNTING MANAGER
-not more than 36 yrs. old
-CPA, at least 2 years experience, computer literate
BOOKKEEPER
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FRONTLINERS
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REQUIREMENTS: resume w/ picture, NBI & Barangay Clearance, Transcript of Records

For Inquiries: 813-0459/812-4864/813-0240 loc 102/103

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SALES EXECUTIVES
(for Metro Manila, Cabanatuan, Tarlac, Cubao, Bacolod, Cagayan de Oro, Davao, General Santos)

Will be responsible for promoting and selling digital copiers and printers

- Graduate of any business course from a reputable school
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- Assertive and self-motivated
- Male/Female, not more than 30 years old

Competitive compensation, high commission and a rewarding professional career await successful candidates

Qualified applicants are requested to send or e-mail their resume with photo to:

Ms. Armela Cruz
Recruitment & Training Group
U-BIX CORPORATION
1331 Angono St., Makati City
E-mail Address: hrd@ubix.com.ph
Previous applicants need not apply.

Konica EPSON RISO okamura

INFONXX
"The Vision, the Value, the Voice of Information"

Customer Service Representatives

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Requirements:
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- Excellent English communication skills
- Willing to work in a shifting schedule

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Founded in 1991, INFONXX has been organized from the beginning to respond to highly specific information needs. We've developed a suite of enhanced information solutions not available from traditional DA providers. The success is based on superior technology, exacting quality control, and uncompromising standards of customer service. Our agents undergo extensive interview screening, training and monitoring to ensure that these standards are always maintained. Solutions from INFONXX have generated dramatic usage increases. INFONXX now handles more than 13 million enhanced directory assistance calls a month as we have aggressively expanded our service.

INFONXX (Philippines), Inc.
11th Flr. RCBC Plaza Tower 2, Ayala Ave., cor Sen. Gil Puyat, Makati City
E-mail address: ph_jobs@infonxx.com; Tel. No. (+632)750-1600

NISSAN

NISSAN NORTH EDSA
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BE PART OF A WINNING TEAM!
(NISSAN NORTH EDSA)
AND GET A CHANCE TO TRAVEL
ABROAD FOR FREE!!!

WE NEED:

SALES PROFESSIONALS

Male or Female, 20-28 years old
With dynamic character, strong and pleasing personality, Chinese speaking is an advantage, High-line professional with good oral and written communication skills.

Qualified applicants will receive competitive salary plus unlimited commission.

Apply in person with resumé & 2x2 photo at:
1174 EDSA, BALINTAWAK, QUEZON CITY
Tel. No. 330-5331 to 50 & look for Mr. Dindo Aquino

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES

A foreign branch of a British marketing company, based in San Fernando, Pampanga, urgently requires experienced Customer Service Representatives for its call center operations.

The successful candidates must have previous call center experience, fluency in English and Tagalog (both spoken and written), computer literate and possess a pleasing personality.

The company offers a competitive salary, excellent working conditions and relevant training will be provided.

Submit your resumé and passport size photograph by mail to The Manager, Nexus Business Solutions, 3rd Floor, Rongai Building, #1 McArthur Highway, Telabastagan, San Fernando, Pampanga or by e-mail to Charlene.mallari@nexusple.com no later than 20th May 2003.

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METRO GAISANO

We are expanding our operations to Luzon area and we need dynamic, self- motivated, and competent professionals who like to work in a fast-paced and creative atmosphere.

Our job vacancies:

STORE MANAGERS / SUPERVISORS
- Bachelor's degree graduate
- Minimum of 3 years experience in same capacity from established customer/service-oriented industry
- Extensive background in operations & customer-service
- Excellent leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills

MARKETING MANAGERS / SUPERVISORS
- Marketing graduate or related discipline
- Minimum of 3 years expenence in same capacity
- Solid background in formulation and implementation of marketing strategies
- Articulate, with high organizational ability and excellent interpersonal skills

ENGINEERS (ELECTRICAL, MECHANICAL, ECE, IE)
- License holder for EEs and MEs
- Substantial working expenence and technical knowledge in field of specialization
- Above average organization, leadership and communication skills
- Male, not more than 35 years old

HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICERS/STAFF
- Graduate of BS/AB Psychology or any behavioral course
- Minimum of one year exposure in all aspects of HR administration (Recruitment, Training, Employee Relations, Benefits) preferred
- Above average planning, communication, and interpersonal skills
- Female, preferably single, not more than 30 years old

COMPANY NURSES & PHARMACISTS
- License holder for nurses
- Minimum of one year work experience in same capacity
- Personable, with proficiency in oral communication
- People-onented, mature and responsible
- Female, preferably single, not more than 28 years old

Interested parties may send their application letter, resume with recent 2x2 picture, and photocopy of Transcript of Records to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
METRO GAISANO - AYALA
Archbishop Reyes Avenue, Cebu City

You may also send your application to our e-mail address: mgaisano@mozcom.com

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FOUNDATION FOR THE PHILIPPINE ENVIRONMENT
Fostering Partnerships for the Environment

The Foundation for the Philippine Environment, an NGO National Environmental Fund, is looking for qualified staff for the position of

PROJECT COORDINATOR

for the Biodiversity Conservation and Management of the Bohol Islands Marine Triangle
A GEF project of the Foundation for the Philippine Environment

Position Summary:
The position carries responsibility for the over-all management of project activities and delivery of expected outputs, in coordination with the executing and implementing agents. Leads the project team; manage staff for the operationalization of project, establish and maintain good working and learning relationship across the partner NGOs and POs, with government and other organizations.

Minimum Qualifications:
College graduate with background in Forestry, Biology, Marine Science, Environmental Studies, Ecology and other related courses; graduate course or units on these areas highly desirable. At least 3 to 5 years experience in project management activities, preferably with exposure to environment-related projects. Previous supervisory or management preferred. Willing to be assigned in Bohol.

Skills and Abilities:
- Oral and written communication
- Negotiation
- Coordination and collaboration
- Can understand and speak local languages of the area
- Computer literate

Applications must be received not later than **15 June 2003**

ACCOUNTING CLERK

for the Biodiversity Conservation and Management of the Bohol Islands Marine Triangle
A GEF project of the Foundation for the Philippine Environment

Position Summary:
The position is responsible for performing a variety of clerical accounting tasks in maintaining basic financial records and processing related data.

Minimum Qualifications:
Must be an Accounting graduate and no work experience required. Willing to be assigned in Bohol

Skills and Abilities:
- Oral and written communication
- Can understand and speak local languages of the area
- Computer literate

Applications must be received not later than **27 May 2003**

Please mail your application letter, bio-data, diploma and transcript of records with latest 2X2 color photograph to:

The HRDA Manager
Foundation for the Philippine Environment
77 Matahimik Street, Teachers' Village, Quezon City

Previous applicants need not apply.
We will respond to qualified applicants only.
No telephone inquiry will be entertained.

University of Santo Tomas
College of Science

JOB OPPORTUNITY

The UST College of Science is urgently in need of the following:

1. Instructor in Zoology
with M.S./Ph.D. Zoology degree

2. Instructors in Math
with M.S./Ph.D. Math degree

3. Instructors in English
with M.A./Ph.D. English, MA./Ph.D. Linguistics or M.A./Ph.D. Literature degree

For inquiries, please call
Ms. Florinda Sy at 7315728
(direct line) or 7313101 loc. 8224 (trunk line)

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- * CHIEF COOKS
- * THIRD ENGINEERS
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Candidates must have VLCC / ULCC Experience and Complying with STCW 95.

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- FREE comprehensive training program for successful Seafarers
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- FREE Career Advancement Training for Deserving employees
- Study leave for higher certificates
- Subsidy for Higher Licensure for Deserving employees
- Professional and Personalized processing of Seafarers and their Families, experience a feeling of belonging
- Pleasant and Presentable Processing Office, with unequalled Ambiance something you will be proud of

If you are less than 45 years old and interested in a challenging career with Vela, please apply in person with copies and originals of the following documents: CV, Seaman Book, Passport, Certificate of Competencies (COCs), TESDA Certificate, Training Certificates, and 2 pcs. (2"x2") pictures to:

VELA DIVISION OF ACE NAVIGATION COMPANY
2129 6th FLOOR KING'S COURT BUILDING 1
CHINO ROCES AVE. Corner DELA ROSA ST.
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Preferably a CPA

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Treasury Staff

Applicants must be business-related course graduates, not over 25 years old, computer literate, with excellent communication skills, and able to work under minimum supervision. Send application letter, curriculum vitaé, transcript of records and colored photo to Box No. MK-105 c/o Classified Ads Dept., PDI, G/F Atrium of Makati, Makati City.

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- Fluent and articulate
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- Education graduates of UP, Ateneo, La Salle,preferably with units in graduate studies
- Communicate well in English and Filipino
- With relevant teacher training expenence
- Highly personable

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- Graduates of UP, Ateneo, La Salle or PSHS
- Communicate well in English and Filipino
- 20-30 years old
- With very good academic records
- Highly personable

Part-time Tutors and Lecturers for English/Filipino/Spanish/Mandarin Fookien /Japanese/French/German
- Fluent and articulate
- At least 20 years old
- With relevant experience in language teaching
- Willing to keep flexible schedule

Branch Coordinators
- College graduate, 23-30 years old
- Excellent customer service orientation
- With marketing and management experience
- Highly personable

Send your comprehensive resume, transcript of records, and two 2x2 pictures to:

AHEAD LEARNING SYSTEMS, INC.

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- College graduates of Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Information Technology or any related course
- With at least 1 year of work experience in any of the following skills:
- Java (XML, J2EE, tomcat), Javascript, Perl
- UNIX scripting (Apache, NT, MQ Series, XML, Web Architecture, C)
- C++, HTML, ASP, SQL
- UNIX Configuration Management (Solaries,OS, scriptings, MQ Series)
- UNIX-AIX (OLAP/data warehousing/Tech Arch/Essbase/alphabox)
- UNIX-AIX (Webserver, TCP/IP,IIS,Win NT admin
- Lotus Notes
- Oracle DBA
- Visual Basic
- Powerbuilder
- COBOL
- Peoplesoft

INDEXERS (CODE: IX)[4]

- College graduate of any four-year course
- Must possess high analytical ability and comprehension skills
- Must possess good communication skills in English
- Knowledgeable in PC applications
- With above average scholastic records
- Willing to work in any shift and on a project basis

DOCUMENT ANALYSTS (CODE:DA)[5]

- College graduate of any four-year course
- Preferably with above average scholastic records
- Must possess high analytical ability and comprehension skills
- Preferably with good oral and written communication skills in English
- Willing to work in any shift and on a project basis

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST TRAINEES (CODE:MTT)[3]

- Graduates of Nursing, Physical Therapy, Medical Technology or other allied health courses.
- With at least a year of experience in hospitals or other similar industries.
- Ability to transcribe at least 40 wpm.
- Excellent hearing acuity and listening skills.
- Ability to operate word processing equipment, computers, dictation and transcription equipment.
- Knowledgeable in basic computer operations and internet applications
- Must possess above average comprehension, problem solving and analytical skills.
- Must possess good command of English in both oral and written communication.
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- New graduates are invited to apply.
- Walk-in applicants are welcome to apply until July 2003, 8am-5pm

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- College degree holders
- Knowledge in desktop publishing software such as QuarkXpress 4.0, Pagemaker, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator.
- With above average scholastic records.
- Good command of English in both written and oral communication.
- Willing to work in any shift

PRODUCTION PLANNING SPECIALIST (CODE: PPS)[1]

- Graduate of any of the ff. Courses: Industrial Engineering, Mathematics, Statistics or other related courses
- At least (6) months of related work experience
- Knowledgeable in basic computer operation, spreadsheet and word processors
- With above average mathematical ability
- Must possess high analytical ability and comprehension skills
- With good oral and written communication skills in English

Interested applicants are requested to e-mail their resume to: [1]m.asistores@spitech.com [2]j.labis@spitech.com [3]r.aragon@spitech.com [4]m.agabao@spiglobe.com [5]g.drio@spiglobe.com

Please indicate the position code on the subject line.

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884 - 1168 or 69 / 884-1227; Email -- prostaffers@johnclements.com

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- HR Managers
- HR Supervisors / Assts
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- Secretaries
- IT / Telecoms Engineers
- Programmers
- Tellers / New Accounts
- Call Center Supervisors
- Call Center Agents
- QC Managers / Supervisors
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- Prod Control Mgr / Supvrs
- Production Mgrs/ Supvrs
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- Process Spvrs / Engrs
- Engineers
- Management Trainees
- Engineers
- Pharmacists / Chemist

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- Nurses (CGFNS Passers - for USA placement)

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We are in need of the following individuals:

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Interested applicants are requested to send their updated resumés to:
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Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, or any related course • With at least five years solid experience in Human Resource Planning, Recruitment, Selection, and Testing • With a wide network of academic, government, industrial and non-profit institutions • Highly analytical and organized • With good leadership skills • Willing to do fieldwork • With pleasing personality • 30 years old and below

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS SPECIALIST *(Quezon City)*
Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, or any related course • With knowledge and/or expertise in the Labor Code, counseling and discipline process • Can make statistical analysis • With skills in group presentation, interviewing and probing • Can organize company-wide activities and projects

AUDIT SUPERVISOR *(Quezon City)*
Certified Public Accountant with good scholastic records • With at least three years work experience in audit • With good analytical skills & can work under pressure • Knowledge in SAP an advantage • Organized and keen to details • With good leadership skills

ACCOUNTING/ AUDIT STAFF *(Quezon City)*
Graduate of BS Accountancy with good scholastic records • Preferably CPA • With good analytical skills & can work under pressure • Knowledge in SAP and related work experience an advantage • 21-27 years of age

R & D SPECIALIST
Graduate of BS Food Technology • With at least one year work experience in product research and development gained from a food manufacturing company • With good leadership and communication skills • With knowledge in operating laboratory equipment • Willing to work on shifting schedules

Applicants for all the job openings must be assertive, have excellent communication skills, be outgoing and comfortable in dealing with other people, proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, and in excellent health.

Send your resumé, 2x2 recent ID picture, transcript of records, a brief essay of at least 200 words describing yourself, and an application letter stating the position you are applying for and why we should choose you over other applicants,
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Supervise quick service restaurant/ food court operations. Implement standards & coach staff. Ideal candidate should be positive, hardworking, energetic, focused & open-minded.

Send your resume with photo to:
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Attn: Tina Mistica (indicate code)
6/F Salustiana Ty Tower
104 Paseo De Roxas, Makati City

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TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEER

- ✔ Male, 30 years and below
- ✔ Graduate of Engineering degree preferably EE/ME/ECE
- ✔ 1 to 2 years working experience in electronics or semiconductors will be an added advantage
- ✔ Excellent communication skills, interpersonal skills, and high computer proficiency
- ✔ With valid passport, preferably with US Visa and willing to travel
- ✔ Preferably with own transportation and residing near Alabang

Attractive salary awaits successful candidates, and will be sent to the USA for training. Interested parties, please send your application enclosing your resumé to:

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Unit 1601 Richville Corporate Tower,
Alabang-Zapote Road
Madrigal Business Park, Ayala-Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Tel: 8506277 to 79 Fax 8506280
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Canada:
14 Irwin Ave.
Toronto, Ontario
Canada, M4Y 1K9
Tel 416-962-0009
Fax 416-922-6983
Email:recruit@medicalconnexions.ca

Please bring photocopies of your documents **RESUME W/ PICTURE, TRANSCRIPT, EMP. CERTS., PRC ID, EXAM RESULTS.**

Our Company, **ISON INFOSYSTEM**, a pioneer in specialized solutions for corporate and government and with international affiliates, is looking for SELF-DRIVEN, CREATIVE and DYNAMIC PROFESSIONALS who can be a part of our fast growing team.

We offer attractive compensation package with opportunity to travel abroad to qualified applicants for the following positions:

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- ❑ Graduate of Computer Science/Computer Engineering or related courses
- ❑ Knowledge in Database Administration (preferably DB2) and Programming, E-Commerce and M-Commerce
- ❑ At least 3 years relevant work experience in the following applications:
  - JAVA, SQL, Visual Basic, Web Development, ASP, Windows Operating System

DATABASE ADMINISTRATOR / SENIOR DATABASE PROGRAMMERS
- ❑ At least 2 years experience
- ❑ Proficiency in JAVA, J2EE, Server lets, JAVA Beans
- ❑ Working knowledge in:
  - JAVA, ASP, XML, J2EE, Server lets, JAVA Beans
  - Database - Preferably in DB2
  - OS - NT, LINUX, UNIX

WEB DESIGNER/WEB DEVELOPERS
- ❑ Proficient in web applications (MACROMEDIA, JAVA Script)
- ❑ Knowledgeable in web languages (HTML, PHTML, ASP)
- ❑ Fast learner, friendly and with 2 years experience

MULTI-MEDIA ARTISTS
- ❑ Proficient in Adobe Photoshop, Corel Draw and other graphic designing software
- ❑ Knowledgeable in the use of graphics and web programs such as Macromedia Dreamweaver, Flash, Fireworks, etc.
- ❑ Fast learner, friendly and with at least 2 years experience

PROJECT MANAGERS
- ❑ Excellent Oral and Written Communication Skills
- ❑ At least 3 years project management experience
- ❑ Excellent leadership skills and pleasing personality

MARKETING EXECUTIVES & (1) MANAGER
- ❑ At least 1 year experience in Sales and Marketing; with Advertising experience preferred; for Manager - at least 3 years experience
- ❑ Excellent Oral and Written Communication Skills
- ❑ Can write proposals, reports, letters and other marketing materials
- ❑ With pleasing personality
- ❑ With IT background preferred

Please send your resumé and other credentials to:

ISON INFOSYSTEMS, INC.
2/F I.T. Development Center
4585 Baron Street corner Montojo Street, Tejeros, Makati

ALL ASIA CUSTOMER SERVICES, INC.

With structures and systems that nurture information exchange, joint learning, and a mode of knowing and understanding, AACS' employees are able to cross the traditional organizational boundaries to work on live business issues and concerns. This ensures employees' skills and knowledge are kept current and attuned with the evolving needs of the business and industry.

*Beyond compensation and traditional system of rewards, our employees can look forward to an environment where continuous learning has become a way of life. If you thrive in an environment where team learning, commitment to shared objectives and a sense of excitement are the driving forces, we want you for our **expansion** program:*

CUSTOMER SERVICE SUPERVISORS

This position is responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the Call Center; managing the performance of the Team Leaders (TL) and Customer Service Associates (CSA); monitoring, training, evaluating, scheduling and coaching the CSAs to ensure that customers receive consistent support and the organization's contractual obligations to clients are met; developing action plans and facilitating open and responsive client communication in a fast paced environment. Additionally, analyzing and interpreting performance metrics to ensure improvement areas are addressed.

Requires Bachelor's degree; at least 2 years experience in a Call Center environment, one year of which in supervisory capacity; strong analytical, problem-solving and interpersonal skills; proven track record in motivating and leading a team.

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSOCIATES

This position is responsible for receiving, initiating and handling phone transactions; documenting and/or escalating issues to ensure customers' concerns are addressed promptly and appropriately. It includes educating the customer on the product/service features.

Requires a Bachelor's degree; excellent communication, interpersonal and active listening skills; agile mind; emotional maturity; computer literate. Exposure in customer service environment a plus.

PAYROLL ACCOUNTANT

Responsible for validating daily time record; validates Manpower Movement Report to ensure accuracy of employee status, shift schedule and salary rate; ensures accuracy of overtime payments as well as computation of statutory payable and other deductions; generates payroll register based on input as validated above.

Requires an Accounting degree; with at least 2 years experience in payroll accounting.

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Responsible for nursing-related functions and a variety of human resource support activities in employee services, benefit administration, recruitment and research. Spearheads programs such as preventive health, first aid medical services & health counseling.

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Requirements common to the above positions:
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*Interested Applicants are requested to e-mail their resume to: **hrd@acspacific.com** or mail to ALL ASIA CUSTOMER SERVICES, INC. 11/F Floor, Citibank Center, 8741 Paseo de Roxas cor. Villar St., Salcedo Village, 1227 Makati City*

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Business Development Executives
Business Executives
Management Trainees

Qualifications:
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- ➢ Graduate from any top notch Universities and Colleges in Metro Manila
- ➢ Strong and Pleasing Personality
- ➢ Aggressive, Ambitious and Self-motivated
- ➢ Independent-minded, mature, Hardworking, Responsible and Trustworthy
- ➢ Above average communication skills

Please apply personally in your corporate attire with your resumé and 2x2 picture on May 12 & 13 between 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM at

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DRIVERS — Age 25 to 30 years old, Male; at least 2nd year college; Speak English and other languages (is an advantage); Familiar with Metro Manila and other Luzon provinces; Honest, trustworthy, reliable and willing to be assigned on shifting schedule.

ACCOUNTING CLERK — Age 22 to 30 years old; Male or female; Single; College graduate, computer literate and with at least 1 year experience in billing and collection.

MARKETING ASSISTANT — Age 20 to 25 years old, female, single; With pleasing personality, smart, attentive; College graduate; Computer literate, at least 1 year experience in customer relations and willing to be assigned on shifting schedule.

Submit Biodata, 2 pcs 2 x 2 picture with white background, photocopy of birth certificate including children, Marriage contract (if married), Driver's license, Drug Test Certificate (for those applying as Driver), NBI Clearance, Brgy. Clearance and Certificate from Previous Employers.

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QUALIFICATIONS:
- College Level or College Graduate; With Sales experience; Aggressive, Self-motivated and can work with minimal supervision; With Good communication skills

TEAM LEADERS (Male or Female)

QUALIFICATIONS:
- College graduate, with Sales experience; Self-motivated and can work with minimal supervision; With good communication skills; Hardworking and trustworthy

DEMO UNIT SUPERVISOR

QUALIFICATIONS:
- College graduate, preferably with logistics management experience (even for less than 1 year) or has working knowledge of the process; Organized and systematic, customer oriented, has sense of urgency; Computer literate (is an advantage)

REQUIREMENTS:

Curriculum Vitaé, Transcript of Records & Diploma,
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Qualified applicants may apply at:

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ENGINEERING GRADUATES BATCH 2002 AND 2003
- Chemical, Computer, ECE, Electrical, Industrial, Mechanical, and Engineering graduates (with or without license)
- Should possess leadership qualities, are team-players and hardworking
- Must be willing to work on shifts
- Male or Female, not more than 23 years of age

PLANNING ASSISTANTS
- Graduate of any Business, Computer Science, Mathematics or Statistics Course
- Preferably with background in production planning, materials control and inventory
- Must be proficient in Windows applications
- Male or Female, not more than 25 years of age

COMPANY NURSES
- Will be responsible for the curative, palliative, preventive, rehabilitative and administrative aspects of employees' health care
- Graduates of BS Nursing, licensed
- Must be service-oriented and willing to work on shifts
- Must be proficient in Windows applications
- Female, not more than 27 years of age

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS ASSISTANT
- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioural Science or Business Administration
- Good interpersonal and communication skills
- Must be willing to work on shifts
- Must be proficient in Windows applications
- Male or Female, not more than 24 years of age

OFFICE CLERK
- Undergraduate with 2 years of college or graduate of any 2-year computer or business course
- Preferably with experience in performing clerical functions
- Must be proficient in Windows applications
- Female, not more than 23 years of age

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- Male / Female. Accounting graduate.
- Have at least 2 years experience in accounting works.
- Preferably computer literate.

WAREHOUSE SUPERVISORS
- Male. College graduate. Not more than 27 years old.
- Have at least 2 years experience in warehouse traffic and control operation.
- Preferably computer literate

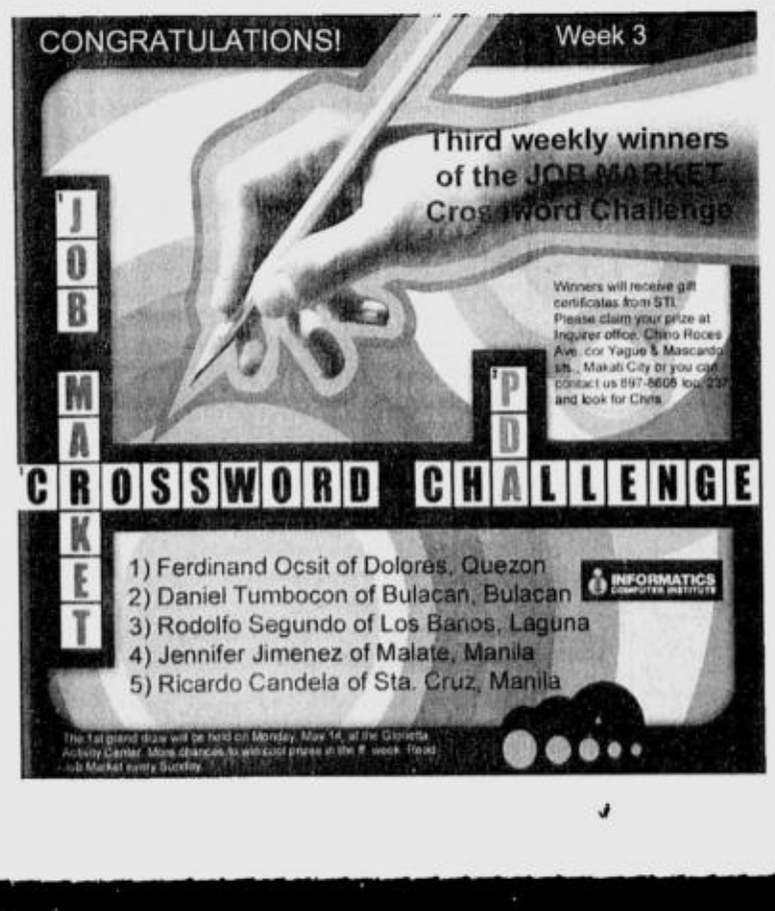
MLM NETWORK DEVELOPMENT SUPERVISORS / MANAGERS
- Male / Female. College graduate. Not more than 30 years old (for supervisor) / 40 years old (for Manager)
- Have at least 5 years (for managers) / 2 years (for supervisor) of well rounded experience on multi-level marketing recruitment operations.

SALES ENGINEERS / ACCOUNT OFFICERS
- Male. Not more than 25 years old.
- Mechanical / Industrial Engineering graduate (for Sales Engr.).
- Marketing / Mass Comm (for Account Officer).
- Willing to do field works and undergo trainings.

MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVES
- Male, not more than 25 years old
- Pharmacy or marketing graduate

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES
- Male / female, college graduate.

Apply in person or mail your resumé with picture to
Taytan International Corporation
822 Quezon Avenue, Carolina Bldg., Quezon City
(Beside Pegasus Club) or email to info@taytan.com



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with the following qualifications:

1. BSE graduate, major in History, Math, Science & English
2. Passed the Licensure Exam for Teachers (LET)
3. Preferably with previous teaching experience
4. With good recommendation from previous school

If you are qualified, please submit personally 2 I.D. photos and requirements at:

11 Capitol Hills Golf Drive,
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- — Between 23-35 years old, female
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Please send your resumé to Luneta Advertising, Inc.
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How to deal with politics at work

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

DEAR WW: The politics in my company are driving me crazy. My projects all have tight timelines and I've got to waste hours getting everyone on my team's buy-in. I'm tired of all the tap dancing and ring kissing. Is there any way to escape company politics?

Blisters On My Feet And Lips

Recently I was having lunch on a plane when the man sitting next to me started to mutter. "Something wrong?" I asked. "I wouldn't feed this to my dog!" he barked. "You really shouldn't think of it as food," I replied.

"Think of it as entertainment: did getting the silverware out of the plastic bag give you some exercise? Did it distract you?" He looked at me confused for a moment, then smiled as he tore into his salad dressing.

Just as it's a mistake to compare airline food to real food, you need to adopt a new attitude when it comes to politics at work. Instead of seeing it as tap dancing and ring kissing, see it as the way things get done. Because that's what it is: the unavoidable side effect of trying to accomplish something with a group of needy, neurotic, ego-driven, and otherwise normal human beings. Your challenge is to find a way to master and enjoy it.

Geoffrey Bellman's book, "Getting Things Done When You Are Not In Charge" (Berrett Koehler, 1992), has great tips for those of us at the shallow end of the corporate pool who can't just snap our fingers and get our way. I've adapted the tips below from it.

Notice how the most effective people in your company get things done. My dad was one of the top supply officers in Europe during WWII. When I asked him his secret he replied, "Scotch. My best trade was for a jeep and four heavy winter parkas." Political-you bet, but my dad knew the system and his junior officers didn't freeze. Now, scotch may not have the currency in your company that it had during the war, but your corporate honchos have figured out some equally effective ways to get what they need. Watch 'em closely and see what can you learn.

Plan for the political consequences of your work. Since politics is a given, it's naïve to think your work will be judged on quality alone. You need to give just as much thought to who will be reviewing it. I knew a foreman once who had this really figured out. He knew his boss's boss hated his guts, so he gave his most important projects to others. That way his fingerprints wouldn't be on them. Some one else got the credit, but his pet projects always survived.

Decide what you will—and won't—do in playing company politics. Kenny Rogers, one of my favorite management gurus, summed it up when he sang, "know when to hold them, know when to fold them, and know when to update them (your resume, that is)." Ask any corporate gambler—you gotta know your personal limits.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

(Mr. Rosner is the author of "The Boss's Survival Guide," McGraw Hill 2001, and "Working Wounded," Warner 2000, a speaker and founder of the award-winning Working Wounded.com & RetentionEvangelist.com. He is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. Email him at bob@workingwounded.com.*)*

'We can survive in the time of SARS'

POSTCARDS *from the* CORPORATE EDGE

By Resty S. Odon

FOR a very long time, we never feared for our lives like we did the past few days. Never was there a time more apocalyptic: unconventional war featuring weapons of mass destruction, unconventional disease temporarily called SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome). These twin evil sisters seem to conspire to frighten the whole world out of its orbit.

This fear is not just disquieting, it is debilitating. Properly presaged by the worst workplace tragedy in history—the toppling down of the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City, this fear has forced us to wear the shoes of the handicapped or the immobile or one in near death.

In one fell swoop, all the strategic plans, long-term goals, and far-reaching dreams we had, crashed down to the level of impracticality. And we're neither in Guandong or Hong Kong, or New York.

What to do

What are we to do in these trying times, marooned as we are in a sea of change that is truly paradigmatic?

Well, there's the usual litany: Be thankful for just being alive. Live for the moment. Smell the roses. Live life to the fullest. As the song goes, "There's only us, there's only this....There is no future, there is no past, there's no day but today."

The litany goes on: Take stock of what we have. Be grateful that we have a job at all. Put on hold even our dreams, if necessary. In the horrific face of a threat at once so naked, mysterious and immediate, we learn to rechannel, to redirect, to get back to square one—the top priorities, the essentials.

Priorities

Suddenly, our health and emotional well-being take center stage over which summer resort is better. Our significant others, our family and close relationships at work and out of it - they all suddenly become even more valuable than we care to admit.

All of a sudden, we listen really intently to the news, no matter how fearfully depressing. We think up of defense mechanisms, avoidance strategies, just to escape being another cold statistic. We grope for possible explanations. Then we seek solace in the promise of "life after life." If it's not priests, then it's psychiatrists and psychotropic drugs.

Escape, that's what we need right this moment. Inner peace, that's what we realize we don't have, or why else do we fear? Thanks to a highly mutable, foreign pathogen, now we're more acutely aware of the world.

Innerpeace

Peace and escape are sure to become big business because of this fear, as will be the case with multivitamins, facial masks and an immune system-boosting lifestyle. Some people are sure to hit the gold mine, the pay dirt.

We can choose the solace of an inner sanctum or we can choose the convenience of escapism. But we can never afford to despair. Behind our earnest mutterings for world peace and preservation is the steely will to live on, the resolve to move on, because we've always known that dire straits can masquerade as a short-cut to better realities.

If it's not the end of the world, then this, too, shall quickly pass like they all did.

(We want to know what people at work think and feel. Send your contributions to Postcards to rreyes@inquirer.com.ph*)*

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May 27, 2003 (Tuesday)

Managing Your Career to the Top
Lecture:
Dr. Josie O. Santamaria,
President, Career Systems, Inc.

May 28, 2003 (Wednesday)

Keeping High Flyers in the Company
Lecture:
Ms. Thelma Geraldine A. Baricaua,
Sr. Consultant,
Career Systems, Inc.

May 29, 2003 (Thursday)

Developing the Global Pinoy
Lecture:
Mr. Jorge G. Santamaria,
Managing Director,
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CEO Forum (second part of each session) to be facilitated by CSI senior consultants, Ms. Myra S. Lapus and Ms. Carmen M. Gonzalez with at least three CEOs per session:

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Hiring quality teachers helps school become a university

By Rochelle Leonor

HR FOCUS

PATRICK Alain Azanza considers himself a maverick, refusing to play a traditional role in the field of human resources. As first vice president for human resources of AMA Group of Companies, he is more than the typical recruiter. In fact, he had a huge participation in AMA's mission to become a university.

In his AMA Vision 2020, he envisioned great things for AMA. "By year 2020, I want AMA to be an institution and at par with other universities like UP, Ateneo and La Salle," he remarks. This means coming up with a methodical approach to achieve quality. Azanza encouraged the faculty members to take their master's and Ph.D. degrees. He also gave emphasis on doing more research and getting them published. "One of the reasons AMA wasn't getting the university status was the researches and the quality of the faculty," he explains. So when Dr. Aguiluz, chair of AMA, appointed him chair of the university completion committee, he made sure that all roads would lead to this vision.

Presently, AMA employs a significant number of teachers, with master's and Ph.D. degrees. Azanza is also happy to note that when he joined AMA six years ago, the turnover rate was 33 percent, which is alarming for any HR practitioner. Nowadays, it remains at a single digit. "It was a huge transformation," he smiles.

> 'Teachers, who comprise a large portion of manpower, deal with services. Quality teachers will attract more students'

He also gives emphasis on hiring honor graduates, as well as the schools they graduate from. The number of researches made and published materials are another criteria for him. This is still in line with his vision to have quality teachers in AMA. "Foreign universities are my benchmark."

HR as profit center

Azanza adds that aside from being a strategic partner, he sees HR as a profit center, as well. "I always think in terms of peso, of numbers." HR, he explains, is not just a support unit of the organization. "Teachers, who comprise a large portion of manpower, deal with services," he says. "Quality teachers will attract more students." In this sense, he explains, HR serves as a profit center because it works hand in hand with the academic affairs department.

He is happy that Aguiluz shares the same philosophy. To support Azanza, Aguiluz established a People First policy, which states that only satisfied people of the company will be able to satisfy customers. Under this program, faculty members enjoy competitive salary packages and working conditions were improved. Azanza also requested that HR be a member of the AMA executive board. This gave HR a very significant role.

Challenges

Indeed, it was not an easy feat. While sitting as chair for the university committee, Azanza also has to handle the entire human resources department of the organization, both academic and non-academic. He says that it is a challenge but maintains that, "It's a matter of training," Before working for AMA, Azanza headed the entire human resources department of the UP system. Since UP units are geographically dispersed, this proved to be a good training ground for him when he transferred to AMA.

The difference though lies in the industries AMA is involved in. While UP is purely about education, AMA is also into banking, pre-need insurance, real estate, and power distribution and materials. "My advantage is that I served as a consultant to different industries like in the economic zones. I was exposed to manufacturing, cooperative, etc.," he counters. This gave enough appreciation for any industry. "I am able to know the unique HR requirements of every industry."

Other interests

Azanza finds joy in serving. Aside from managing more than 5,000 AMA employees, he also writes his own books on HR practices. Some are used by UP-SOLAIR, where he also taught. He says he would also like to teach AMA but his heavy workload just won't allow him at the moment.

Azanza is obviously an achiever. He was a consistent scholar in college and finished BA Sociology at the University of the Philippines. He also served as chair of the University Student Council. Although his family could very well support his education, he opted to work as a crew for Burger Machine all through his college life. Azanza explains that he wanted to realize the value of work, saying that the experience made him feel closer to workers. This eventually helped him be a better HR practitioner. He also chose to work in a locally owned food chain rather than work for foreign ones. But he says he doesn't have anything against foreign firms.

Educational background

After graduating, he worked for UP as researcher. He rose to the ranks and eventually became chief of staff of the UP president. In between, he took his MA in Sociology, attended the University of California and further specialized in HR. He also went to the Asian Institute of Management and took Human Capital Management. Not only that, he studied law for three years before taking a leave of absence. When he transferred to AMA, he pursued a Ph.D. in Educational Administration to give him a deeper appreciation for the field.

In 1997, Azanza became the youngest recipient of the Distinguished UP Alumnus Award. He was also awarded the Lingkod Bayan Award, the highest honor for people in public service. Although there was no monetary incentive, the honors meant a lot to Azanza. "It was a clear appreciation of my contribution."

Azanza is happily married to a fellow UP graduate and they have two daughters. Aside from writing his books, he also dabbles in poetry and enjoys acquiring paintings from local artists. He plans to come out with one book a year. He is currently writing a book on local artists, which he hopes to publish next year.

PHOTO BY JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

AZANZA, VP for Human Resources, AMA Group of Companies

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2 Sheep is to follower as Shepherd is to ___ (see p.20)
5 A respected retail store in Visayas (see p.13)
6 San Miguel Corp is accepting ___ (see p.10)
9 Jobz: ___ Expo 2003
10 The computer school that makes it happen

DOWN
1 Successful Fujitsu applicants will be based in ___, Laguna (see p.15)
3 Ison Infosystems, 2/F I.T. ___ Center (see p.15)
4 Blisters on my ___ & lips (see p.16)
7 A litany: Be ___ for just being alive (see p.16)
8 A goal properly set is ___ reached (see p.20)

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- Preparation, control and analysis of monthly, quarterly, & annual financial reports for management use as well as in compliance with government requirements

Candidate Profile:

- CPA with a proven track record of at least 5 years experience in Financial Controllership in a multinational company
- Well exposed to the legal, regulatory and tax environment in the Philippines
- Knowledge of SUN Information system (Business & Accounts), with sound knowledge of Windows packages
- In his early 30's

Interested candidates may send their comprehensive resumes ASAP to:

Email address: jobs@alouetteonline.org
Fax number: 719-4052

COMPANY PROFILES

(From page Q21)

RMH TELESERVICES ASIA PACIFIC

TO be the leader in providing world-class wholesale and data related services as measured by:
- Customer Satisfaction
- Employee Satisfaction
- Long-Term Investor Value

At RMH, the biggest advantage we have over our competitors is our people. As a member of our team, you will be working within a culture that is the result of the company's overall philosophy.

Part of our culture entails the relationship we form and nurture with our 12,000 employee partners over 8,000 workstations across 23 facilities throughout the United States, Canada, India and recently in the Philippines.

Founded in 1983, RMH Teleservices, Inc. has steadily grown to become the highest quality, most innovative and committed provider of outsourced customer relationship management services.

In partnership with one of the premier outsourcing call centers Excell Agent Services, we are committed to build one of the largest Directory Assistance Center in Manila to service both residential and business users within the United States.

SCAD SERVICES PTE, LTD.

ISO Certified Multi-National Company engaged in manufacturing various housing fixtures, committed to quality service and customer satisfaction, awarded as top sectoral export performance citation for furniture category are in need of key personnel.

SHOEMART, INC.

SM Department Store is the heart of SM's retail network. With branches strategically located in Metro Manila and in the southern Philippine cities of Iloilo and Cebu, it is the acknowledged innovator and trendsetter in the Philippine retail scene.

SM Department Store's popular theme "We've Got It All" has, through the years, become the country's unofficial shopping anthem for generations of shoppers from all walks of life. At SM there has been an exciting merchandise mix, world-class interiors, a one-stop shopping concept, service and value-pricing that have made it part of the lives of many Filipinos.

SM had its beginnings when Henry Sy, Sr. opened the first Shoemart store on October 1958 in downtown Manila. The company expanded its shoe store chain in the sixties, and marked its shift from a store to a full line department store in the 1970's.

Today, SM is a dynamic group of companies committed to the highest level of talent, service and expertise in the retail merchandising and shopping center industries. SM has been name one of Asia's most admired companies in surveys undertaken by a prestigious Asian business magazine. More recently, it has been honored as the best Philippine company for strategy and management by Asiamoney, as well as the best-managed company in the Philippines by the UK-based Euromoney magazine.

SPI TECHNOLOGIES

SPI Technologies, Inc. is the leading provider of business process outsourcing (BPO) services to Fortune 500 companies and organizations worldwide. SPI is an ISO 9001:2000 certified company with BPO expertise in large-scale content conversion, customer service call centers, Customer Relationship Management (CRM) programs, scholarly publisher services, litigation support, medical transcription, legacy software maintenance, and software development.

SPI Puts People First.

Servicing the needs of Fortune 500 corporations and institutions worldwide since 1980, SPI Technologies Inc., attributes its success to its more than 4,000 skilled men and women who manage and perform a wide range of business processes and activities using the most appropriate technology available.

Sports & Games Entertainment Corp. (SAGE)

SPORTS and Games Entertainment Corporation (SAGE) was formed in 1998 for the purposes of offering Internet Gaming in the Philippines. In the same year, SAGE was awarded a license by the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR), the government body that regulates and manages gaming in the Philippines, to offer..."any game of chance of the Internet for foreign and domestic players..."

SAGE Casino is Asia's First Internet Casino - a cutting edge electronic entertainment.

SPORTSHOUSE

TWENTY years ago, Sportshouse started as a small retail store of sporting goods in a little corner of Gilmore Ave. With the constant struggle necessary in the business world, sportshouse eventually bloomed into twenty-three branches and has spread to several island all over the country. Sportshouse sell all kinds of sporting goods from the smallest sports accessories to huge sophisticated gym and exercise equipment.

Beloved consumers could avail service satisfaction in Sportshouse SM-Megamall, SM-Centerpoint, SM-North Edsa, SM-Fairview, SM-Southmall, SM-Sucat, SM-Cavite, SM-Davao, SM-Bicutan, SM-Pampanga, SM-Iloilo, SM-Cebu, SM-Valeria Iloilo, SM-Cagayan, SH-Robinsons Galleria, SH-Robinsons Bacolod, SH-Alimall, SH-Harrison Plaza, Sportsland-The Landmark, LA Azotea-Baguio, Plaza Luisita Mall-Tarlac, Fiesta Mall-Lipa, and Pecton Building, Gilmore Ave., New Manila, Quezon City. Sportshouse offers the best quality in merchandise as well as services. As Sportshouse aspire to weave more webs, people should expect more than one new Sportshouse branch to open before the end of year 2003.

SYKES ASIA, Inc.

SYKES is currently providing global support solutions for several of the world's leading IT companies, we are best known as the "Roll's Royce of the technical support business." We are supporting 31 languages with over 14,000 employees at 70 locations in 16 countries, which includes 40 customer support centers, worldwide.

U-BIX

U-BIX Corporation is the Philippines' leading office systems and services provider and is among the Philippine Top 500 Corporations. Our objective is to provide a "one-stop" shop option to anyone who needs office equipment, furniture, and office-related products and services. From the customers' perspective, they have the convenience of being able to rely on one company with a proven track record of high quality and excellent service to cater to all their office needs, whether for office equipment or facility-maintenance services. From the company's perspective, our strength is being able to know what our customers need and deliver these products and services to their full and complete satisfaction.

WEALTH MARKETING

WEALTH Marketing & General Services Corp. is a local corporation, which has partnership ties with FOREX CAPITAL MARKETS, USA (FXCM), the largest non-bank institution that provides and facilitates spot foreign currency transactions to retail and institutional clients. As a recognized local partner, Wealth Marketing makes use of the technology and financial expertise of FXCM in providing financial services to its local partners. In addition, Wealth Marketing's highly trained and seasoned management staff is always ready and available to assist their businesses partners and provide them with relevant and applicable information.

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Room 212 St. Anthony Bldg.,
891 Aurora Blvd., Cubao, Quezon City

Look for: Ly Ann Almazan

Goal setting: a surefire road to success!

By Julie Tillman-Frost

WHETHER you're just starting your business, or celebrating your 5th, or 25th anniversary, writing down your goals is probably the single most important thing you can do. Think that sounds far fetched? Think again. Without goals, we don't know where we are going. If we don't know where we are going, how we will ever get there?

Here are some quotes from successful people about goals:

"Without goals, and plans to reach them, you are like a ship that has set sail with no destination."—Fizhugh Dodson

If you were going to drive to another state to visit your Aunt Betty, wouldn't you have a plan? Wouldn't you bring a map? Surely you would! Otherwise you could end up in Georgia instead of Colorado! Both places are nice, but Aunt Betty would be disappointed if you ended up in Colorado and missed that delicious apple pie she spent all day preparing! Writing down your goals is like deciding your destination. From there you can draw your own 'map.'

"If you don't know where you are going, you will probably end up somewhere else."—Laurence J. Peter

So, how do we go about setting goals? Write them down! Whether it's on your computer or a napkin from your local deli or a sticky note—get it down. It's not important where you write them, just that you do. The act of writing your goals down (or typing them out) helps you visualize your goals, and gets you thinking about how you will reach them.

"A goal properly set is halfway reached."—Zig Ziglar

Need a lesson in goal setting? It's easy. Get your pen and paper, or computer and keyboard, in front of you and remember these key ideas:

Begin with the end in mind. Your goal shouldn't be something so huge it seems unattainable. Small goals to reach a larger one are often a more effective way of reaching them.

"Without a goal to work toward, we will not get there." —Natasha Josefowitz

Write down at least five goals you have for this month. Make them as simple as "Work for at least five hours each day" to "Pay all my bills early" or "Make sure I market my business in some way—every single day." Then you can work on your long-term goals—For next year, three years from now, five years from now, and longer.

"Happiness, wealth, and success are the by-products of goal-setting; they cannot be the goal themselves."—John Condry

Prioritize your goals. Each goal is important, but some need to be reached sooner than others, and some will take more effort. What is your most important goal? Visualize yourself reaching that goal each day. Figure out what smaller goals you will need to reach in order to reach the most important.

"Set your goals high, and don't stop till you get there."—Bo Jackson

Sometimes we wonder why we've had mediocre results in the past... Where did we go wrong? Many times you can attribute this to lack of goal setting. Simply wishing for things to happen won't make them happen. Writing down you goals, and in turn figuring out how you will reach them will make them happen.

"Those who cannot tell what they desire or expect, still sigh and struggle with indefinite thoughts and vast wishes."—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Whatever you do, don't take your eyes off the goal. When you are driving to Aunt Betty's, you may come across a closed road. But you won't fret, because you have a map, and you will simply take another route. Many times you may have to change your path, but your focus should remain on the goal and how you will reach it.

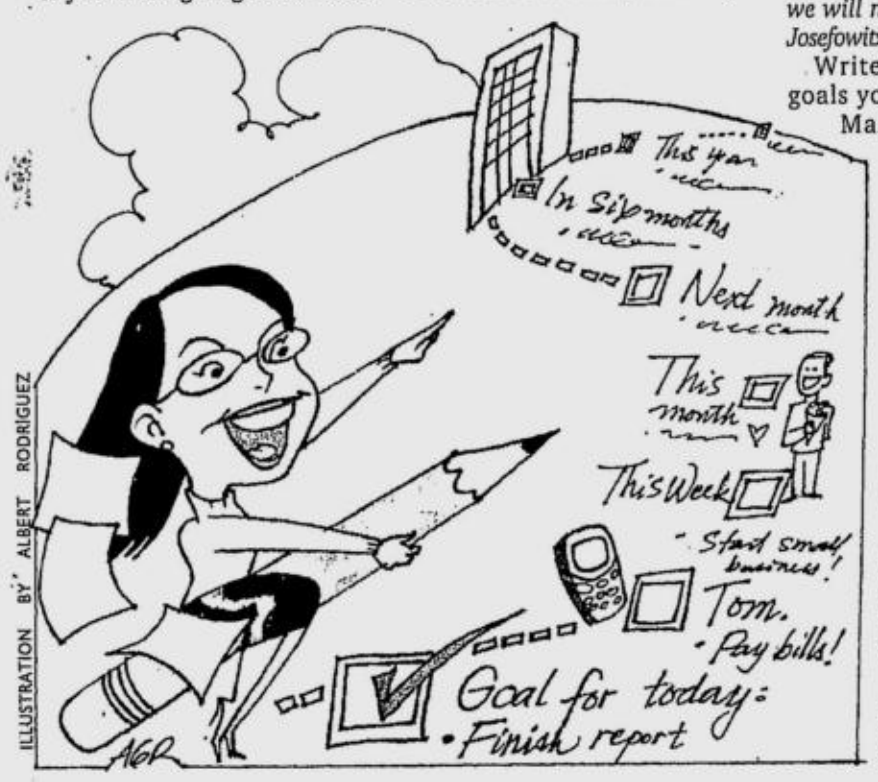
"Obstacles are those frightful things when you take your eyes of your goals."—Hannah Moore

I believe in the power of thoughts. Whether you want to call it prayer, meditation, visualization, or anything else, there is power in it! If your having trouble reaching your goals, by all means, think about how you will reach them, step by step, until you have attained them! These thoughts will bring action. You create your own destiny so why not visualize the destiny you want?

"Picture yourself in your minds eye as having already achieved this goal. See yourself doing the things you'll be doing when you've reached your goal."—Earl Nightingale

Start a goal journal today!

(To be continued next week. Reprinted with permission from www.kiwicv.co.nz)



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REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

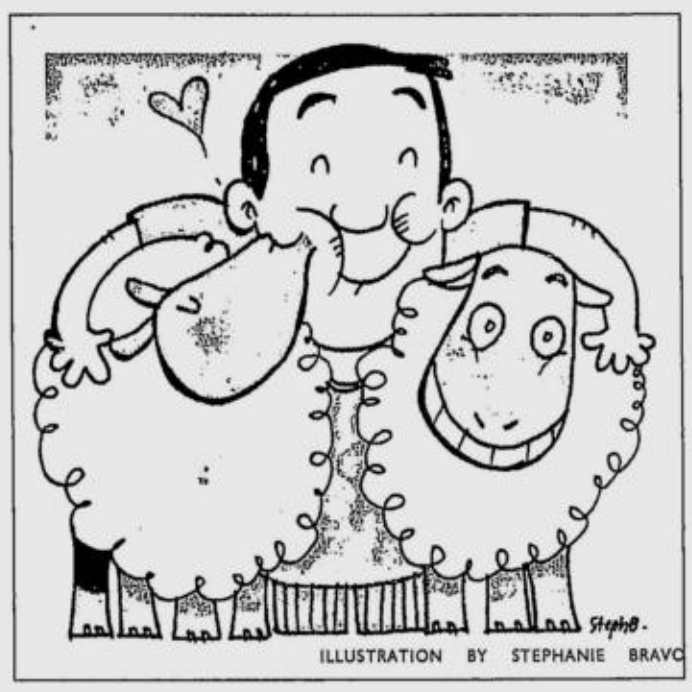

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

Gospel John 10:11-18

"A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away...This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep."

Work without pay

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

IN my work as a school administrator, I have presented awards of recognition to several persons for their long and faithful service in the school. A good number of them, I realize, have worked for more than 40 years—which means they were already serving the school when I was still in grade one! Beaming with joy and pride they receive their reward—a piece of paper or a plaque which bears a brief description of their lifelong sacrifice, dedication and love for their work. If they could only be paid in cash for their long and dedicated service, they would surely receive a fortune, yet they seem to be contented with simply public acknowledgement of their work.

We see in them the figure of the Good Shepherd, which Jesus describes in the gospel, who does not "work for pay" but has "concern for the sheep." They work without counting the cost. Their services are not "for sale" or "for hire," but they offer their skills and expertise as a gift of their whole being to the persons they work with and work for—*may personalan talaga, hindi lang trabaho*! They prove a research finding that money alone is not enough motivator and satisfier for workers. They build a veritable home in the workplace, which makes them stay and persevere for years.

We can work just "for hire" or "for love," for ourselves or for others. Jesus, the Good Shepherd, invites us to be like Him, ready to lay down our lives through a loving and dedicated fulfillment of our daily tasks. Working with all our love for the family, society and for God will merit for us the rewards of an eternal recognition!

(Email the author at mfvg@skyinet.net)

Leadership by heart

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

IN the workplace, there are sheep and there are shepherds. Which one are you?

People normally connect "shepherd" with "leader" and "sheep" with "followers." Thus, we tend to classify ourselves as "sheep" if we are not managers (or at least supervisors) where we work.

But shepherding the Jesus way means much more than just leadership by rank—it is leadership by heart. We have leaders who make bad shepherds and we find good shepherds among followers. This is because an essential trait of the good shepherd is concern for the sheep, 'others-oriented' attitude that seeks the welfare of others. The "hired man" works only for pay and will not care for others when his own interests are threatened by the "wolves" in the workplace. The worker who gives of himself more than what his paycheck demands is the true shepherd, the one whose *malasakit* will ensure order and harmony in the workplace.

In that sense, everybody in the workplace can become a good shepherd, for as long as one has enough concern for others to adopt Jesus' way of shepherding. And the beauty of it is, this way will work no matter what religion a worker belongs in—Christianity, Islam, Hinduism, etc. Whether you have pork or beef or just vegetables in your lunch box, the "others" in Jesus' words includes you. As Jesus also leads "other sheep that do not belong to this fold," so does the good shepherd among his coworkers.

(Email the author at ayemaria@csi.com.ph)

Career directions for job seekers, people at work

LOOKING for career directions? Here's an opportunity for you to get some good guidance from Josie Santamaria, president of Career Systems, Inc. She will be conducting a three-hour seminar on "Managing Your Career to the Top" on May 27, 2003 (Tuesday) from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Santiago Hall, Mezzanine, Equitable PCI Bank Tower 1, Makati Ave., Makati City.

Her lecture will answer your question, "How can I manage my career?" Top CEOS like Emily Abrera, chair of. McCann Erikson; Gary Teves, president of Land Bank of the Philippines; Carlos Ejercito, president of United Laboratories, Inc.; and Nieves Confesor, Dean of Asian Institute of Management will also share their personal experiences on how they got to the top of their careers.

This is part of a special three-day People at Work Live! Seminar Series on Career Development Strategies presented by Career Systems Inc., Optimus Managers & Advisors, Inc. and the Philippine Daily Inquirer in celebration of Career Systems, Inc.'s 20th anniversary.

"Keeping High Flyers in the Company" is the topic for the second day with Thelma Geraldine Baricaua, Career Systems Inc.'s senior consultant, as speaker. Jose Cuisia, Jr., president, Philam Life & General Insurance Co. and Dr. Abraham Pascual, chair & CEO of Pascual Laboratories, Inc. will share their insights on talent retention.

"Developing the Global Pinoy" is the topic for the third day with Jorge Santamaria, managing director of Career Systems, Inc. giving the lecture. Joaquin Quintos, country general manager of IBM Philippines, Inc, Sandy Prieto-Romualdez, president of Philippine Daily Inquirer and Atty. Felipe Gozon, chairman & CEO of GMA Network Inc. will share their ideas on how we can develop as a world class Pinoy workforce.

Tickets are available at any Inquirer Classified Ads branch in Metro Manila and at the People at Work office, Philippine Daily Inquirer Bldg., Chino Roces Ave. corner Yague St., Makati City (897-8808 local 554). The subsidized registration fee for balcony is only P300, orchestra, P400 and patron, P500.

This event is sponsored by Job Market, Equitable PCI Bank, Microdata Systems and Management, Inc., Powerbooks, McGrawHill Education, ABS-CBN Publishing Inc./ Metro Working Mom, Blue Collar Magazine, The Philam Life & General Insurance Co., SuperFerry, Land Bank of the Philippines, McDonald's Philippines and the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company.

PAW LIVE! SPONSORS. Sitting from left are Zonito M. Torrevillas, McDonald's Philippines PR/ Communications manager; Donald L. Lim, INQUIRER AVP for Marketing Services; Rene R. Reinoso, INQUIRER SVP for Sales and Marketing; Josefino R. Sto. Domingo, The Philippine American Life & General Insurance Co. executive vice president, sales and marketing group. Standing from left are Regina Galang Reyes, PaW editor, Jet C. Abugan, Optimus Managers & Advisors account manager and Annie B. Vergara, The Philippine American Life & General Insurance Co. sales promo and public relations department assistant.

PAW LIVE! SPONSORS. Sitting from left are Gabby Licauco, Powerbooks operations manager; Donald Lim, Inquirer AVP for Marketing Services; Amor Lopez, Microdata Sales Manager. Standing from left are Minette Gamboa, Powerbooks marketing officer and Jet Abugan, Optimus Managers & Advisors, Inc. account manager

PHOTOS BY JESS YUSON

PAW LIVE! SPONSOR. Sitting from left are Nori S. Plazo, Land Bank corporate affairs manager; Donald Lim, Inquirer AVP for Marketing Services; Conrado B. Roxas, Land Bank corporate affairs vice president. Standing is Jet Abugan, Optimus Managers & Advisors, Inc.

COMPANY PROFILES

ABOITIZ TRANSPORT GROUP

ABOITIZ TRANSPORT AND CONSUMER GROUP traces its roots to the beginning of Aboitiz Shipping Corporation. The Aboitiz venture into shipping started with the purchase of MV picket.

In 1928, Abotiz & Co. entered into a partnership and formed La Naviera Filipina. With the dissolution of La Naviera, the Philippine Steamship Navigation Company was formed with Aboitiz & Co. and the Everest Steamship Company as the major stockholders. The Shipping department of Aboitiz & Co. was likely established.

In 1972, Aboitiz Shipping ought the assets of the Philippine Steamship navigational Company.

In 1975, ASC went into containerization by acquiring it's first container vessel. This marked the company's shift into containerization.

In 1981, a joint venture was forged between the Aboitiz Group and the Jebsens Maritime Inc. of Norway. This gave way to Aboitiz Jebsen Bulk Transport Corporation.

In 1985, Aboitiz International Forwarders was established. It was later renamed Jardine Aboitiz International Forwarders Inc. (JAIFI) in 1996 with the coming of the Jardine Group.

In 1994, Aboitiz Transport System Inc. was formally incorporated as a company, making it, next to Philippine Airlines, the second largest Transportation Company in the Philippines.

Early in 1995, another joint venture in the field of transportation was forged between the CTS park view transport system. This gave birth to Universal Aboitiz Inc. and it's business to provide fast ferry service to our customers.

Super Support Center was launched last March 13, 1988. Here, Endika Aboitiz outlined the structure of ATS 2000 by stressing on the roles of CEO, CIO, COO, and CFO. It's concentration is to build superior HR system, build superior financial systems, Build superior operating systems and installation of EVA, measure intellectual capital and developed the use of Super–Telecommunications Network.

In addition to its palette of service, AATC headed by it's President Sabin Aboitiz signed an agreement with Western Union (USA) last May 13 New Jersey, USA to form the Quick Delivery Money Transfer Service.

Set to re launch the Bic Products in the Philippines, ATS signed a joint venture contract with Societe Bic of France in October 24, 1998 to handle the natiowide sales, marketing and distribution of it's various product lines.

In 1998, Universal Aboitiz (UAI) merged with the fast Ferry operation of Negros Navigation Co. Inc. to form the Philippine Fast Ferry Co. Inc. (PFFC), making it the largest fast Ferry Operation in the country. In December 1998, Aboitiz One was launched to link the services of the different transport and consumer companies and restructure the look to convey that the group is one.

ADD PROFESSIONAL

ADD Force was established in 1986 in response to the growing number of individuals who are seeking suitable and gainful employment, and companies need to hire the right people for their organization. Our Primary objectives are to lead more people to more opportunities, and to efficiently address the staffing and employment concerns of our clients and candidates through customized recruitment strategies. ADD's increased efforts to develop client connections and match applicants with more prospects have been widely recognized, identifying us one of the leading human resource consultants and providers in the country.

ALL ASIA CUSTOMER SERVICES,INC.

ALL Asia Customer Services, Inc. (ACS) is a provider of outsourced Customer Relationship Management services and solutions, its multi-channel contact centers provide 24x7 telephone and internet-based help desk, customer service and product support. In every phase of the sales cycle, from customer acquisition through retention, ACS helps companies manage effective communications with their customers enhancing loyalty and customer lifetime value.

Acs is focused on contact center growth opportunities in both the local and offshore markets. Established in 1997, it has been managing the inbound and out bound teleservices and web-enabled contact center requirements of companies from the telecommunications, finance, satellite broadcasting, technology and manufacturing industries- all of whom are major players, if not industry leaders, in the Philippine and U.S. markets.

AMA COMPUTER UNIVERSITY

AMA Computer University is undoubtedly the first and the largest ICT University in Asia with an annual student population of 150,000 and more than 200 campuses in the Philippines and other parts of the world.

As the pioneer of computer education in the Philippines, it was the first to offer course in Computer Science and Computer Engineering and e-Learning, the first to provide one-to-one student-to-computer ratio, the first computer university to offer Mechatronics, the first school in the Philippines to have received ISO 9001 Certification, the first Premier Education Partner of Microsoft, the first and exclusive training partner of Avaya, and the first to branch out to key cities and municipalities in the Philippines and other parts of the world.

To date, only AMA has developed on line learning in the Philippines. It is also the first school in the country that is developing a University town comparable to Harvard, MIT and other prestigious academic institutions in the world. It's founder, Dr. Amable R. Aguiluz V, also committed to establish a hospital and medical school in honor of his mother Ester R. Aguiluz.

Since it's establishment in 1980, AMA has graduated more than 160,000 students who are now gainfully employed in top IT companies all over the world, a development that made a name for the Philippines as the leading provider of competent computer manpower in Asia.

ASIA PACIFIC COLLEGE

ASIA Pacific College is powered by education and industry professionals as faculty, with a balanced curriculum, which aims to provide Business and the information Technology Industry in the Philippines and overseas with lifelong learning graduates who are anchored on the principles of the integrity, competence and professionalism.

As early as 1989, IBM Philippines started looking for a partner with whom they could form a computer training institution that would produce graduates who are ready to meet the demands of industry. In mid-1991, they began having discussion with Dr. Paulino Tan, IT Consultant of SM (Shoemart) and former Executive Vice-president of De la Salle University (DLSU), Prof. Leonida Africa who was then Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges and Universities (PAASCU) and former Vice-President for Academic Programs of DLSU, Bro. Andrew Gonzales, F.S.C., who was then President of Manila Bulletin and former President of DLSU.

Mr. Henry Sy, Chairman of The SM Group Companies was convince to be IBM's partner in this venture. SM saw in APC an ideal opportunity for it to contribute to socio-economic development through education.

By June 1994, the College of Information Technology accepted it's first batch of degree program students.

ASIA PARTNERSHIP PHILS. / ASIA CALL CENTER

A Major challenge to the Contact Center Industry

THE contact center industry needs a global approach to meet the challenges of recruitment, training and consulting.

ASIA call center Link, a division of ASIA Partnership Phils., is committed to set global standards for contact center professionals in the Philippines through it's quality recruitment and training programs, its thrust to line up training programs based on recognized contact/call center best practice that are consistent with both industry and national standards. While leading the team to set government vocational standards (TESDA) and baccalaureate degree standards (CHED) for the local contact center industry, we pioneered a move launch the first internationally accredited training program in the Philippines.

Our Global Contact Center Training conducted the first international training program in the Philippines accredited by the Assessment and qualification Alliance (AQA), The Biggest independent Awarding body in the UK. With our affiliation with international training groups in the industry, we aim to develop a coherent range of qualification with clear vertical and horizontal progressions route to higher education, employment and professional status for contact center professionals. Apart from the locating our facility is Eastwood Cyber Park, a PEZA accredited zone, we have also partnered with one of the world's top call centers technology, Nortel Networks to provide support for our training.

Apart from up lifting the call center industry in the Philippines and providing employment for the country, Asia Call Center Link aims to provide the contact center industry with educated and highly skilled call center professionals. This enables the industry to fulfill it's objective of serving it's clients by understanding their needs and by addressing them in the most efficient and effective manner, therefore translating it to profit.

BUSINESS TRENDS A KELLY SERVICES COMPANY

FOR the last 20 years, Business Trends, a leading provider of staffing services, with over 2,300 offices globally, has been committed to assisting companies locate qualified employees. We are proud to say that we are the first staffing solutions providers in Southeast Asia to receive an ISO 9002 Certification.

Our Human resource solutions cater to temporary Staffing, Outsourcing, Staff leasing, Vendor On-site and full time services. Business Trends takes pride in the fact that we are the first company in Southeast Asia to go completely on-line via the Internet. We have over 400 automated skills assessment from the United States. We provide employees with a wide range of skills, ranging from office and information technology, to legal and scientific. All these ensure that our clients get only the best and qualified people.

Business trends has further strengthen itself through a recent merger with Kelly Services, a Fortune 500 Company based in the United States, and the fourth largest staffing provider in the world.

CHOWKING FOOD CORPORATION

THE **CHOWKING FOOD CORPORATION** gained entrance to the Philippines' highly competitive fastfood industry in 1985, at a time when western-style burger joints dominated it.

It positioned itself in a niche where it could be a strong leader by adopting the best features of two distinct restaurant personalities-on the one hand, the traditional Chinese restaurant, with its menu of delectable, sumptuous but easy-to-prepare and reasonably-priced dishes; on the other, the modern, western style fastfood joint, with its eye-catching façade, bright interiors and young staff dispensing friendly and snappy service- and fused them into a unique concept: the Oriental quick-service restaurant.

With focus on its core competencies to create differentiated, superior product value, Chowking has stood the test of shifting tastes, changing lifestyles and a volatile market, to develop its own set of loyal customers that keep the growing year in and year out.

In 1989, in an aggressive bid to expand its client base and capture a bigger share of the market, the company initiated its franchising operations and marked its entry into the provincial market. The twin moves enabled the company to pursue an ambitious expansion program that has made Chowking the largest Oriental quick-service (QSR) chain in the Philippines, enjoying high visibility in all the major cities and towns in the country's main island groups, Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

The turn of the millennium was a turning point for Chowking Food and Corporation. On January 1, 2000, Chowking became a wholly owned subsidiary of Jollibee Foods and Corporation, the largest, most respected restaurant chain in the Philippines. With the merger came numerous changes in Chowking.

Hand in hand with the new physical features is the renewed pursuit of high standards in Food, Service and Cleanliness (FSC), the three pillars of restaurant business. The goal has been still is as fundamental as it is simple: To serve consistently delicious and hot food in five minutes, amid sanitary and clean- smelling surrondings.

Chowking is poised to contribute significantly to the annual systemwide sales of the Jollibee group. As Jollibee and Chowking gear up for the challenges ahead, both companies are optimizing the advantages of the merger with synergies aimed at cutting costs and improving efficiency in their stores.

DHL

DHL is the world's leading express and logistics company offering customers innovative and customized solutions from a single source. With global expertise in solutions, express, air and ocean freight and overland transport DHL combines worldwide coverage with an in depth understanding of local markets. DHL's harmonized international network links more than 220 countries and territories worldwide.

DHL continues to be at the forefront of technology and, with more than 150,000 dedicated employees, guarantees fast and reliable services aimed at exceeding customer's expectations.

Based in Brussels, Belgium, DHL is 100% owned by Deutsche Post World Net.

DTSI (Diversified Technology Systems, Inc.)

DTSI is the leading System Integrator and provider of Contact Center Solutions in the Philippines. We are Avaya's Top Business Partner of the year and we are empowered with solid strategic partnerships with Lucent Technologies, Witness Systems, Automated Logic and Sensormatic, apart from many other global technology providers.

Global companies engaged in the information and communications technology, banking, education, property management and outsourced call center industries have chosen us to provide and service their ICT requirements. We empower our business partners with total solutions from business communications to network infrastructure to building electronics systems.

Our growth stands on a firm commitment to customer satisfaction. We keep a pool of extensively trained and certified engineers as well as 24/7 customer service engineers. These guarantee our clients immediate and consistent response to all their technical needs all times.

DTSI is also one of the founding members of the Contact Center Federation of the Philippines, a call Center industry-wide Federation that aims to make the Philippines the Contact Center Central of Asia and the Pacific.

FAMILY FIRST INC./ BERKLEY INT'L. PLANS

BERKLY International Plans, Inc. and Family First Inc. are wholly-owned subsidiaries of Berkly International, LLC, which is owned by W.R. Berkly Corporation of Greenwich and Connecticut, U.S.A. Family First Inc. functions as the marketing arm of Berkly International Plans.

Family First began as one office at 21st Floor of San Miguel Properties Center, Mandaluyong back in 15 November 1997. Moving with the changing times, Berkly International Plans and Family First,Inc. head office is now located at the 9/F Tower 2, The Enterprise Center, 6766 Ayala Ave. Makati City. To date, Family First has four branches in Metro Manila and is planning expansions throughout the country.

Since Family First, Inc. opened in November 1997, it has risen from number 87 to the top 6 in the pre-need industry in the year 2002.This success can primarily be attributed to a unique marketing approach that "brings the people to the product" instead of the other way around.

Family First Inc. encourages its people to make work a lot of fun. They maintain a positive mental attitude at all times and are willing to learn apply new ideas. We thrive in an atmosphere of creativity and resourcefulness.

Compensation Package is extremely attractive because it includes a salary plus bonus based on results. The power to make your income grow lies in your own hands.

INFONXX

***INFONXX is the vision, the value, the voice of* information**

RESPONDING to the highly specific demands of telecommunications firms, InfoNXX provides a suite of enhanced information and directory assistance solutions not available from traditional DA providers. Superior technology, outstanding database reach, exacting quality control, and uncompromising standards of customer service yield information capabilities that are uniquely diversified, responsive and cost-effective.

INFONXX provides the people, technology and services behind wireless and wireline Enhanced Directory Services, managing a database with over 150 million listing requests annually.

With a 100-percent record of increasing directory-assistance traffic for its carrier partners, INFONXX has experienced rapid growth. In fact, increase revenues of 818 percent over five years earned it 334th rank on the 2001 Inc. Magazine 500 lists. According to Inc., revenues in the year prior to its selection for the list were $36 million.

To meet the demands of this explosive change, INFONXX employs more than 2,000 people in five regional locations- up from 250 five years ago. Headquarters for this privately held firm is in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, with call centers in Tucson, Arizona, Riverside, California; Greensboro, North Carolina and San Antonio, Texas and many points of presence nationwide. Among current customers are Verizon Wireless, AT&T, ALLTEL, U.S. Cellular, Cellular One and Dobson Communications.

HSPI Recruiting for your future

THE predecessor of HSPI, HotelStaff Philippines was established in 1994 as a hospitality consulting firm focusing on recruitment and training. It's founder and President, Victor Fabregas Alcuaz has 28 years experience in the hospitality, telecommunications and broadcasting industries. In the hospitality industry, Mr. Alcuaz started his career as HR Director of the Hyatt Regency Manila and was the opening HR Director of the first Shangri-la Hotel in the Philppines, the EDSA Shangri-la, until he founded HotelStaff Philippines in 1994.

Hotel Staff Philippines has not metamorphosed into HSPI or HotelStaff Philippines, Inc., a corporation established in 2003 to be a full service domestic and international recruitment company (license on process). As such, it will focus on the provision of Filipino human capital to the service industry like opening hotels, resorts, restaurants, entertainment centers, theme parks, casinos, airlines and cruise liners. Our database covers all positions from rank and file to executive levels.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

THE **Philippine Daily Inquirer** was born during the last days of the Marcos regime. Its maiden issue, published on Dec. 9, 1985 sold merely 30,000 copies. Today, the Inquirer dominates all other newspapers in readership and in virtually every socio-economic class in the Philippines and its circulation continues to grow at a rate higher than the industry's. Its trademark balanced news, fearless views style of reporting has won Inquirer over 100 journalistic awards, more than any other newspaper in the history of Philippine journalism. The Inquirer is arguably the most influential news organization in the country and continues to be the benchmark among news media groups around the country.

LINK2SUPPORT

LINK2Support, Inc., is a world-class call center located within one of the premiere technology cyberparks in Manila, Philippines. The Call Center was established to render technical support to businesses and home users of Linksys products around the world by phone, email or chat. The Linksys Group, Inc. is known as the worldwide leader in the development and manufacturing of broadband and wireless networking solutions for homes, small offices / home office (SOHO), small / medium businesses (SMB) and corporate workgroups.

Cutting across different US, Europe and Asian time zones, Link2Support is operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and has a management team with over 20 years of call center experience. Link2Support has a workforce of over 600 Product Support Representatives composed mainly of licensed Electronics and Communication Engineers and Bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering / Science and related disciplines who are fluent in conversational English.

Its cutting-edge technology, work processes, stringent quality control and vibrant work environment make Link2Support, Inc., an ideal partner in jumpstarting your career in the field of new-age technology.

Build your career. Grow with us!

MARIE FRANCE

OUR companies Marie-France Bodyline International, Inc., Facial Care Centre, Svenson International and Pacific Asian Advertising Specialists, Inc. are renowned internationally in the service-oriented business with branches throughout Europe and Asia. We specialize in introducing and utilizing technologically advanced techniques in slimming, skin care and hair restoration that are proven safe and effective over the years.

Our primary objective is to provide and maintain our renowned high quality services that will ultimately satisfy our clientele. To achieve this, we shall:

- Deliver services to our clientele efficiently and effectively.
- Continuously improve and upgrade our various services.
- Regularly train, develop and motivate our employees to increase productivity and profitability.

Through the years, the company has steadily grown and has continuously maintained its status as the leader in the beauty-related industry. It is only in having professional and a highly qualified workforce that we are able to achieve this. If you possess the qualities we're looking for, we are challenging you to be part of us.

MCDONALD'S

McDonald's is the largest and best-known global foodsevice retailer with about 30,000 restaurants in 121 countries. Yet on any day, even as the market leader, McDonald's serves less than one percent of the world's population. Our outstanding brand recognition, experience management, high-quality food, site development expertise, advanced operational systems and unique global infrastructure position us to capitalize on global opportunities. We plan to expand our leadership position through great tasting food, superior service, everyday value and convenience. Our efforts to increase market share, profitability and customer satisfaction have produced high return to shareholders – a compound annual total return of 17 percent over the past ten years.

Our vision... McDonald's vision is to be world's best quick service restaurant experience. Being the best means providing outstanding quality, service, cleanliness and value, so that we make every customer in every restaurant smile.

METRO GAISANO

METRO Gaisano is one of the respected retail stores in the Visayas operating for 20 years. We are dedicated to the highest standards of quality throughout every step of providing service to our customers.

We are expanding our operations to Luzon area and we need dynamic, self-motivated, and competent professionals who like to work in a fast-paced and creative atmosphere.

PHILAM GROUP OF COMPANIES

THE **Philippine American Life and General Insurance Company** (Philamlife) is a member of the American International Group, Inc. (AIG), the leading US-based international insurance organization and the largest underwriter of commercial and industrial coverage in the United States. AIG operates in approximately 130 countries and jurisdictions throughout the world. AIG's global businesses also include financial services and asset management, including aircraft leasing, financial products, trading and market making, consumer finance, institutional, retail and direct investment, fund asset management, real estate investment management and retirement savings products.

Philamlife is the largest and most diversified insurance company in the Philippines. It leads the Philam Group of Companies in providing its customers with a full range of financial services such as property and casualty insurance, health care, pre-need plans, banking, mutual funds, credit card and property development.

PROFESSIONAL STAFFERS/ STAFFBUILDERS ASIA

PROFESSIONAL Staffers, a division of John Clements Consultants, Inc. is the pioneer and leading firm in professional staff recruitment. The company has been placing professionals from staff to junior managerial level with top multinational and local firms for more than twenty-five years. Its vision is to be the leader in professional staff and junior managerial recruitment through consistent enhancement of its processes and by developing partnerships with its customers and suppliers (candidates) thereby, ensuring continuous growth for the company. What the company offers to job aspirants in the opportunity to explore varied career opportunities with its clients. Whether for current or future manpower requirements of these client companies, it would be worthwhile for individuals to be included in the pool of talents. The company can provide access to job opportunities, not all of which are advertised, which it handle for clients and the option to consider higher job responsibilities or better remuneration packages. Companies need not undergo the tedious steps involved in the search and selection process. Talents need not go through the exhausting process of direct job applications.

"Staffbuilders Asia (SB Asia), a division of the John Clements Consultants Group, is a pioneer and innovator of staffing services in the Philippines with proven track record of close to two decades, servicing major multinational companies. We are engaged in the recruitment of technical, office, skilled and unskilled personnel/ workers for temporary, job contracting as well as outsourced and project-based requirements. We are an overall personnel management solutions provider to clients who have continuously availed of our services. We utilize advanced methods of selection of candidates, which have been proven over the years to yield quality candidates, thus, making SBAsia the consistent leader in its industry."

COMPANY/ p.Q19

Hit the career trail!

JOBZ

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOBMarket
EMPLOYMENT EXPO
May 12 to 14, 2003

Nothing would afford us more pleasure than to bring you **JOBZ-Employment Expo 2003**. The **INQUIRER'S JOB MARKET** carries on to meet the needs of our advertisers in picking the right professionals among the bunch.

On **May 12 to 14, 2003, JOB MARKET** brings you **"JOBZ-Employment Expo 2003"** at the Glorietta Activity Center, Makati City.

Fill-out our Resumé Reserve form via computer or bring your resumés intended for any of the following companies:

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AMA Group of Companies
Asia Pacific College
Asia Partnership Phils./Asia Call Center
Berkley International Plans, Inc.
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DTSI (Diversified Technology Systems, Inc.)
E-telecare
Link2Support
Marie France
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Metro Gaisano
Oliver's Supersandwiches/Haagen Dazs
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Philippine Daily Inquirer
Professional Staffers/Staffbuilders
RMH Teleservices Asia Pacific
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Elite Garments International, Inc.
EVT Group of Companies
FEP Printing Corp.
Fisher's of Men Manpower Services
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Hotel Staff Philippines, Inc.
Infonxx (Phils.), Inc.
Information Products Corp.
Ison Infosystems, Inc.
Itochu Corporation
ITT Industries Goulds Pumps
Jideco Manufacturing Phils, Inc.
Julie's Franchise
KFC Phils.
Land Bank of the Phils.
Luneta Advertising, Inc.
New Horizons Computer
Nexus Business Solutions
Nippon Housing Phils.
Nissan North EDSA Balintawak
OMX Philippines
One Financial Group
PILTEL
PRA Solutions #3, LLC/Navitaire
President Realty, Inc.
Quest Research Marketing
Ramcar Group of Companies
Reedley International School
Reliable Recruitment Corp.
RGMC Group of Companies
Royal Norwegian Embassy
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Selective Personnel Consultancy
Sices Manila
Slingshot Interactive
Store Specialist
Sunny Hill School
Takezawa Technology
TAPE, Inc.
Taytan International
United Graphic Expressions Corp.
United Nations Dev't. Corp. (UNDP)
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Vision X, Inc.
VSO-Bahaginan
Wealth Marketing
Women's Health Project
Zamperla Asia Pacific, Inc.
Zoni Group

sunday INQUIRER magazine

GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

May 11, 2003

Mel Tiangco

Singular Mom

The respected TV journalist gets to show her softer side in a feel-good inspirational show. Yet, as she reveals in a candid talk with SIM, it's her children who have brought out the best in this survivor

Bonding: Mel with daughter Nangnang

By Cora Llamas
Photograph by Ernie U. Sarmiento

THESE days, TV audiences are glimpsing the warmer and cheerier side of seasoned broadcaster Mel Tiangco.

The no-nonsense journalist who delivers GMA-7's "Front Page" with sobriety and equilibrium currently recounts the inspirational life stories of men and women who made good amid adverse circumstances in the real-life drama *"Magpakailanman."*

The opportunity to host the feel-good program couldn't have come at a better time for the multi-awarded newscaster and TV host who, until a few months ago, had felt that her career had reached a plateau.

"I had always wanted to do a show that would speak of how real people overcame their life's difficulties—a program with positive values which would be a diversion from the regular news, which can be very negative."

In a sense, the optimistic message of the show is a partial answer to one of her fervent wishes. Given a chance to reinvent herself beyond the restrictions of time and opportunity, the Wednesday Baclaran devotee would be "a magician. Not the Houdini sleight-of-hand kind, but able to cure people of their diseases, or reconcile a couple about to break up. *Kung hihingi lang naman ako sa Panginoon*, I'd want to do something concrete for people. When we talk of ambition, that is mine—not necessarily climbing up the hierarchy."

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Mel ...from page 1

Her eyes light up when she talks about the GMA Kapuso Foundation and its numerous projects providing medical, nutritional, educational and relief assistance. This other passion, which was also instrumental in setting up another TV station's foundation years ago, was born during one visit to the Mangyans in Oriental Mindoro.

"I was this city-bred *colegiala* seeing this tribe for the first time. They hadn't seen a lowlander, but they were working hard to put up a school there for their children. The women roamed topless, but there were no cases of rape or wife-swapping. I was so amazed by their values and the way they raised their children."

Mention good-old fashioned values, and Mel launches off into that same mix of intensity and enthusiasm that has captured audiences every evening. "I believe in paying forward. If the parents are poor, chances are the children will be poor. Or if the parents are beggars, chances are the children will be beggars. But the minute you help another person, you inculcate a different set of values in him. Break the cycle, and that one person will change his perspective. One of the old Pinoy traditions that we should bring back is that of the eldest child who sends his younger sibling to school, and then that sibling sends another younger child, and so on down the line."

Values were also one factor in her decision to raise her four now-grown children by herself. At a time when single-mother income-earners were unheard of, Mel opted to separate from her spouse and take on full parental responsibilities.

"He was irresponsible, and went into some vices. Staying on would have worked against my children in the long run. My kids would have taken on the wrong values. I couldn't control what would influence them."

Mel's P2,000-a-month salary then as a newscaster in Martial Law-era MBS 4 left just enough for tuition and the rent. Her ex didn't contribute any child support, and the thought of making him pay up wasn't in the picture. "*Hindi na ako naghabol.* (I didn't run after him.) I thought that we would have a more peaceful life that way. *Ayoko ng sakit ng ulo,* I wanted to concentrate on my career and children."

The budgeting in the first years was tight. While an occasional trip to the movies was still affordable, the expensive Voltes V toys weren't. Sometimes, the younger kids had to settle for hand-me-down clothes from their elders. As one of her children described that time to her, "Ma, did it ever occur to you that if I dropped 10 cents on the bus, I wouldn't have been able to go home?"

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FRANCIS ABRAHAM

In a publicity still for *"Magpakailanman"*

Mom and brood (left to right) Wency, Nanie, Jomike and Nangnang

More important, despite the crushing deadlines and hectic schedule of TV journalism, the kids never missed her presence. As Nangnang put it, "My mom was always there for us."

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Her ongoing case against the station, which she had previously won and is now under appeal, cannot allow any details for publication at this point. This much, though, she will say on the record: "The minute I filed a case against Channel 2, (then GMA7 EVP for Network Operations) Tony Seva called me. I never called him before that, despite the buzz that I was being pirated and offered good money. All that was so unfair to Tony.

"Through all that, I never lost my equilibrium. I felt I was in control of my life. I also know that it was not I who did anybody any wrong. I have always been honest and sincere, and you cannot put a person like that down."

As a senior journalist, Mel never ceases to remind the up-and-coming wards on her team to hold on to their integrity and credibility.

"You simply say no to the attempts at corruption. I went through tough times when there wasn't enough for the kids. But you will reap a respect *na nakakataba ng puso*. Now, I can face any government official eyeball to eyeball, even the President, and ask him or her any question."

Those same traits also landed her the two jobs she's excited about. GMA gave her the *"Magpakailanman"* stint after a survey voted her as the number one person audiences will trust to handle that kind of a program. The Kapuso Foundation only had one concern: "They asked me straight, 'Are you going to run for public office?' They didn't want it used for political motives." To which she happily and earnestly answered, "No."

She's happier these days; the glow on her face radiates through the screen. Yet, even then, happiness is a state of being that the lady is careful to qualify.

"You create your own happiness. I am happy unto myself. I choose to be happy. It's a happiness that comes from you, not from another person or thing. Had my personal happiness depended on my former husband or former colleagues, I would be an unhappy person now."

It's a hard-earned, if sublime happiness that this mother dreams of for her children, and her audience.

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Editor in Chief	**Alya B. Honasan**
Managing Editor	**Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz**
Associate Editor	**Ruel S. De Vera**
Staff Writer	**Eric S. Caruncho**
Graphic Designer	**Chuchie Quevedo-See**
Design Consultant	**Lynett A. Villariba**
Editorial Assistant	**Sharon M. Felipe**
Advertising & Sales Manager	**Kenny Nuyda**

THE Sunday INQUIRER MAGAZINE holds office at Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, with telephone number 897-8808 locals 317 and 318. Mailing address: PO Box 2050, 1099 Manila, Philippines. E-mail: sim@inquirer.com.ph. For press releases, send e-mail to pr_sim@inquirer.com.ph.

MOTHER'S DAY TREAT Take mom out for a special treat at the New World Renaissance Hotel and give her a choice of different ways to celebrate, whether for lunch or dinner, in the hotel's various restaurants. All moms will be surprised with a refreshing welcome drink as well as a special memento for the occasion. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

8 Hours

Speedometer fluctuating.
Eight hours vertiginous
in a bus, hurtling.

A lifetime of blurred vision,
whispers, the inability to conquer
the density of water. Wheels

and axles grinding.
With eyes closed
in the darkness, the curve

of the hill recedes
away. Outside my window,
scenes by Amorsolo

In the manner of Renoir:
verdant oryza, brown
madonnas, naked children.

Fences.
Reality, remembrances, regrets
do not flow back

and forth
through the umbilical cord.
More fences.

Caustic rain washes away
a foliage of emotions.
Some memories

fail to catch up with
the reckless speed.
Then suddenly a halt.

I arrive, not knowing
how to span the chasm
between past and future.

Rodrigo V. Dela Peña

The **Sunday Inquirer Magazine** accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <poetry_sim@inquirer.com.ph>

DOGGIE DIAPERS

I would like to thank reviewer ABH for his or her very kind review of my book, "Housetraining For Dummies," in the April 27 edition of the Sunday Inquirer. It's good to know that someone enjoyed reading the book as much as I enjoyed writing it, and who can see that good housetraining is often at the root of a successful relationship between a pooch and his or her people.

However, I should point out that I do **not** advocate the use of doggie diapers for housetraining a dog—in the Third World or anywhere else. On page 76 I explain that such diapers are useful only for those dogs who, for medical reasons beyond their control, can no longer hold it, or for female dogs in season. There's no need to diaper a healthy dog who's simply learning bathroom basics.

Best wishes.

SUSAN MCCULLOUGH
Author, "Housetraining For Dummies" and "Your New Dog: An Expert Answers Your Every Question"
Website: www.susan-mc.com

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Mel ...from page 1

FRANCIS ABRAHAM

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Fast-forward a decade later, when the newscaster is now a celebrated TV host and anchor. Her well-publicized departure from ABS-CBN stirred up a hornet's nest of intrigue. It took years before Mel would allow herself to be interviewed.

Her ongoing case against the station, which she had previously won and is now under appeal, cannot allow any details for publication at this point. This much, though, she will say on the record: "The minute I filed a case against Channel 2, (then GMA7 EVP for Network Operations) Tony Seva called me. I never called him before that, despite the buzz that I was being pirated and offered good money. All that was so unfair to Tony.

"Through all that, I never lost my equilibrium. I felt I was in control of my life. I also know that it was not I who did anybody any wrong. I have always been honest and sincere, and you cannot put a person like that down."

As a senior journalist, Mel never ceases to remind the up-and-coming wards on her team to hold on to their integrity and credibility.

"You simply say no to the attempts at corruption. I went through tough times when there wasn't enough for the kids. But you will reap a respect *na nakakataba ng puso*. Now, I can face any government official eyeball to eyeball, even the President, and ask him or her any question."

Those same traits also landed her the two jobs she's excited about. GMA gave her the *"Magpakailanman"* stint after a survey voted her as the number one person audiences will trust to handle that kind of a program. The Kapuso Foundation only had one concern: "They asked me straight, 'Are you going to run for public office?' They didn't want it used for political motives." To which she happily and earnestly answered, "No."

She's happier these days; the glow on her face radiates through the screen. Yet, even then, happiness is a state of being that the lady is careful to qualify.

"You create your own happiness. I am happy unto myself. I choose to be happy. It's a happiness that comes from you, not from another person or thing. Had my personal happiness depended on my former husband or former colleagues, I would be an unhappy person now."

It's a hard-earned, if sublime happiness that this mother dreams of for her children, and her audience.

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Editor in Chief	**Alya B. Honasan**
Managing Editor	**Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz**
Associate Editor	**Ruel S. De Vera**
Staff Writer	**Eric S. Caruncho**
Graphic Designer	**Chuchie Quevedo-See**
Design Consultant	**Lynett A. Villariba**
Editorial Assistant	**Sharon M. Felipe**
Advertising & Sales Manager	**Kenny Nuyda**

THE Sunday INQUIRER MAGAZINE holds office at Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City, with telephone number 897-8808 locals 317 and 318. Mailing address: PO Box 2050, 1099 Manila, Philippines. E-mail: sim@inquirer.com.ph. For press releases, send e-mail to pr_sim@inquirer.com.ph.

MOTHER'S DAY TREAT Take mom out for a special treat at the New World Renaissance Hotel and give her a choice of different ways to celebrate, whether for lunch or dinner, in the hotel's various restaurants. All moms will be surprised with a refreshing welcome drink as well as a special memento for the occasion. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

8 Hours

Speedometer fluctuating.
Eight hours vertiginous
in a bus, hurtling.

A lifetime of blurred vision,
whispers, the inability to conquer
the density of water. Wheels

and axles grinding.
With eyes closed
in the darkness, the curve

of the hill recedes
away. Outside my window.
scenes by Amorsolo

in the manner of Renoir:
verdant oryza, brown
madonnas, naked children.

Fences.
Reality, remembrances, regrets
do not flow back

and forth
through the umbilical cord.
More fences.

Caustic rain washes away
a foliage of emotions.
Some memories

fail to catch up with
the reckless speed.
Then suddenly a halt.

I arrive, not knowing
how to span the chasm
between past and future.

Rodrigo V. Dela Peña

The **Sunday Inquirer Magazine** accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <poetry_sim@inquirer.com.ph>

DOGGIE DIAPERS

I would like to thank reviewer ABH for his or her very kind review of my book, "Housetraining For Dummies," in the April 27 edition of the Sunday Inquirer. It's good to know that someone enjoyed reading the book as much as I enjoyed writing it, and who can see that good housetraining is often at the root of a successful relationship between a pooch and his or her people.

However, I should point out that I do **not** advocate the use of doggie diapers for housetraining a dog—in the Third World or anywhere else. On page 76 I explain that such diapers are useful only for those dogs who, for medical reasons beyond their control, can no longer hold it, or for female dogs in season. There's no need to diaper a healthy dog who's simply learning bathroom basics.

Best wishes.

SUSAN MCCULLOUGH
Author, "Housetraining For Dummies" and "Your New Dog: An Expert Answers Your Every Question"
Website: www.susan-mc.com

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

First Person

By Lani T. Montreal

My mother cupped my chin, forcing me to look into her eyes, her angry fingers burrowing into my cheeks. 'This is why you make me so mad,' she said as she turned her back and walked toward her room. 'You remind me so much of myself'

My Mother's Daughter

The author's mother, Mely Tagasa, third from right, at a gathering of colleagues

I RECENTLY turned 40. I still don't quite know how to react when people look at me and say, "But you don't look your age." Okay, so I don't wear chunky gold earrings, loose print blouses, or rouge, and I don't listen to Neil Diamond. Maybe they mean that I don't act my age. But then, how does anyone know how to act their age?

I never really became comfortable in my own skin until I turned 30, enough so that I went out and got myself a tattoo. I still crave ice cream and chocolate, line up for repeat rides on the Raging Bull at Great America, dance to hiphop and reggae, and watch horror movies with gusto. I don't have to worry about mortgage or car payments. I am not married, at least not in a conventional sense—falling in love over and over without checking my harness first. And while I adore children, I don't have any. I write anti-war poetry and music, and still lie to my mother about performing them at demos, rallies and backstreet cafes. This is the only way I know how to turn 40.

I was about 12 when my mother turned 40. Her friends had an *asalto* for her, a surprise party, bringing a huge cake, drinks and gifts. "Life begins at 40," they all kept saying, as if my mother had not actually lived her life before then. And perhaps she hardly did, having had a difficult childhood, but that in itself is another story.

I grew up in smoke-hazed recording studios, waiting up for my parents as they worked as radio actors. I watched and napped as they said their lines into huge hanging microphones, kissing their forearms passionately when there was a love scene, and catching their breath as they spoke when it was a death scene. It was way back when television was not yet the centerpiece of everybody's living room, and there was no such thing as a couch potato.

A red lightbulb came on reminding everyone to hush inside the sound-proofed room. "Ten, nine, eight..." the director started out loud, raising his hand in the air at five and then mouthing the remaining numbers, folding a finger in with each quiet count. And as he pointed to an expectant talent, the weeping violin faded and the drama began. When I closed my eyes, the actors all sounded young and fair and glamorous even when they were not. You couldn't tell that Uncle Heneng was as dark as macao chocolate, or that Tita Aida, in her lime-colored, butt-hugging flood pants, did the voices for both the 70-year-old grandma and the five-year-old boy. There was much crocheting, smoking and napping between scenes. And then someone "buckled," as they would call a blunder, and the sound of magnetic tape rewinding was like a little girl squealing in delight, or the Chipmunks complaining. There would be sudden bursts of laughter, sighs and whispers about who ran away with whom, slept with this or that person, until the red light came on and the director counted again. "Ten, nine, eight..."

On the weekends, it seemed the same people met again and again at someone's wedding, children's party, birthday blow-out, baptism, or just to play mahjong and drink San Miguel—share their joys and woes. Our apartment either brimmed with rowdy adults, or was empty as a classroom at recess. Every time my outfitted and perfumed parents would leave, I remember feeling nauseous at the smell of my mother's lipstick when she kissed me, and then my tear-stained face jammed between the bars of the staircase as I watched them go out the door. I knew I wouldn't see them again until the next day.

A child retains a lot, you see, and in my memory, my mother, father and their friends were always 40. They worked and lived hard, doing what they liked and did best. They were not always compensated well; I knew this, because we never had enough of anything. But they seemed happy, and I thought through the years that that was what I wanted to be when I grew up—happy, doing what I wanted most, surrounded by friends who would grow old with me. But there were trade-offs to living your life like this, I would learn. Like not getting that pair of Our Tribe sandals that all your friends had no matter how much you whined, or not having your own house so you moved from one apartment to the next like wandering nomads, and then later on, not knowing if you could enrol this semester because Daddy's show got cancelled. This was something any parent would not wish for their children—this instability, this uncertainty about the future.

When I turned 17, my mother and I had one of our vicious spats. I was out with friends "gallivanting," not knowing that Mom had watched the news and so had found out about the bomb threat that caused our classes to be cancelled. She met me at the door with the rubber sole of her terrycloth slipper, but I was too inebriated to feel the pain. She gave the usual maternal spiel—about how difficult my birth was, the doctor opting to pull me out of her womb with forceps. But I was not impressed and pushed her rage further by saying something juvenile like, "Well, I didn't ask to be born." It was then she cupped my chin, forcing me to look into her eyes, her angry fingers burrowing into my cheeks. "This is why you make me so mad," she said as she turned her back and walked toward her room. "You remind me so much of myself." She mumbled the last sentence halfway through her closing door, like she never intended for me to hear. But I did and I had always wondered what she meant. Later on, in the twilight years of the Marcos era, I would lie to my mother about cutting classes and attending rallies at Mendiola, and joining progressive student groups.

My mother never talked to me about her past, and only when I left for North America and had a chance to spend time with my aunt, her best friend in childhood, that I learned of her painful truths. The eldest of seven children, Mom was left with the care of her siblings at the age of 20 or so, herself struggling to survive with a child out of wedlock. Back then, single mothers were reviled, thought of as loose. She had defied her father as a teenager, going with a married man twice her age, and so he refused to see her at his deathbed. I realized then that I never really knew my mother. At least not beyond her working hard as an actor and scriptwriter, lulling me to sleep when I was a child with the sound of her typing, her fine fashion sense, her fanatic search for spiritual fulfillment, her passionate outbursts, her matriarchal hold over my uncles and aunties—the way they went to her with their empty pockets and broken lives for mending.

Like any mother, Mom had high hopes for her children. She wanted stable lives for us and so worked hard and, with the aid of my eldest sister, saw us through college. She herself only got as far as first year college. But I became a semi-bohemian of sorts, working first for a magazine, and then in not-for-profit organizations, so that I never made enough money to buy myself a condo or a nice car. I could never thrive in a corporate environment, not even in North America, opting to wait tables or deal with the tantrums of a four-year-old than an egomaniac boss. I have been restless, finding stability only in mobility, kept in one place only by the deep friendships I make with people I know I would die for. And when I did move, I changed cities, if not countries or apartments.

I came home to visit during the Christmas break and I went with my parents to work, the way I used to tag along as a little girl. My mom and dad now supervise dubbing Mexican telenovelas into Tagalog in smaller recording studios where smoking is not allowed. It was a pleasant surprise to see some of their old friends: Tita Aida still in in her bright-colored leggings , my bespectacled Ninang Eva with her sweet smile, contemplating on taking her second masters. She said she had tried teaching college-level classes, having done her masters in Education, but this, she declared, referring to dubbing, is like child's play compared to that. They say the voice ages slowly, so I wasn't surprised to see my mom's friends dubbing for actors 20 years younger than them. I noticed that they all have a youthful glow about them. This, despite their many years of struggling to fit in a continually evolving media environment, enduring displacement with the advent of television soaps, where looks mattered more than acting ability. Some thrived doing voice-overs for commercials or dubbing for movies, others in theatre. Still some made their name acting on TV and in films. Some have passed away like Tito Ben and Ninong Rolly, whom they still talk about in low, reverent tones. When I saw my parents' friends, I couldn't help but remark, "But you don't look your age, Tita!"

When I told my mother that I was going to graduate school at 37, she didn't get upset or nag me about getting a stable job instead. She boasts to her friends of her daughter in school in a society that has definite ideas about a woman in her late 30s. I remember in grade school how I never quite knew what to say about what my parents did for a living, as I listened to my classmates boast of their fathers being doctors or businessmen, and their mothers being "housewives." (I could not even imagine what a "housewife" was.)

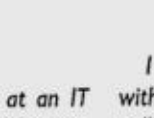
Mom no longer asks me when I'm going to get married, and treats my partner with kindness and respect as a mother would her daughter's spouse. My "stability" is no longer her concern. "Whatever makes you happy, *anak*," she said. At whatever cost, she might as well have added.

I turned 40 in a country fresh from a war. US bombs were dropping on Iraqi soil, and when my mother called overseas to ask how I was, I did not tell her that I had been out protesting in downtown Chicago. I suppose at whatever age, you will always be your mother's daughter.

Lani T. Montreal is a writer/performer based in Chicago where she is completing her MFA in Creative Writing. She received the 2001 Samuel Ostrowsky Award in Humanities for her non-fiction story "Summer Rain." Her fourth play, "Sister OutLaw," a romantic comedy with a gender and immigration twist, premiered in Chicago in December 2001, and is still touring the US. She was a former staffwriter for SIM.

LoveNotes

By Joe D' Mango



Afraid to Take the Chance

When I found out that I was falling for him, it was already too late. I already had a boyfriend then. But that didn't stop me from continuing my friendship with Randy

Dear Joe,

I am a fresh graduate working at an IT company here in Makati. I met and became friends with Randy in my physics class. He was very sweet and a perfect gentleman. We would eat lunch together and go to class together.

We became so close that I was not aware of what danger I was getting into. When I found out that I was falling for him, it was already too late. I already had a boyfriend then. I did not have any plans of telling my boyfriend what I felt. But that didn't stop me from continuing my friendship with Randy.

There were times that I got the strange feeling that he also felt the same way for me. He would ask, if someone close to me would attempt to court me, would I entertain it? I'd always answer "No," because it would be unfair to my boyfriend. I would always see him turn away upon hearing my answer.

He called me one night, and said he wanted to talk. He had arranged a lunch date for us at a restaurant near school. I was not able to sleep all night thinking about the date. I was torn between my boyfriend and Randy.

I was so bothered that day that I went out with some of my friends. I knew he would be calling the house since I agreed to meet him. He called seven times and left messages on our answering machine. I did not show up. I was so afraid I might have to choose between my boyfriend and Randy.

I never heard anything from him since then. He did not enroll the next semester. Months passed. There was not a single day that passed without my thinking about him and what would have happened if I showed up that day. I was longing to talk to him, to see him once again. I told my boyfriend what was bothering me, since I believed it was better to be honest about it. That ended the relationship. I had fallen hard for Randy, and I missed him everyday. I gathered my courage and called him once. But he wasn't home. I never thought he would return the call. He did. I felt my knees shake as we talked on the phone. I said I was sorry but didn't tell him what really happened. It was good that he did not ask about it anymore.

We agreed to meet with our barkada the

To page 7

Businesswatch

By Pennie Azarcon-dela Cruz
Photographs by Jim Gulao Punzalan

Her Ragged Road to Success

Hard work and loyalty marked Milagros Lambio's rise from factory bag supplier to entrepreneur and employer of an entire community in Batangas

ARIA Milagros (*Ka* Mila) Lambio remembers hauling dried corn on her head and filling their entire shack with the day's harvest. At the end of the day, she and neighbor *Ka* Naty Dimaculangan would lament, "*Diyos ko, kailan po ba matatapos ito*? (God, will this ordeal never end?)" as they fingered off the kernels for drying and eventual sowing. The future seemed as arid as the surrounding corn fields.

Today, *Ka* Mila owns an airy bungalow that doubles as a tailoring shop in Lipa, Batangas, and two Asian utility vehicles. She also employs as sewers members of 18 households in the community, whom she pays in cash as soon as they finish a batch of sewing. The feisty 56-year-old woman has come a long way from supplying hand-sized rags to wipe clean the machines at the Nestlé cereals plant in Lipa, to becoming the chief supplier of uniforms, hair nets and shoe covers to the food giant.

The fifth in a brood of 13, this daughter of an uneducated couple who made ends meet by buying and selling fruits, remembers sewing baby clothes and army uniforms since she was 13. Life did not get any better when she got married at 17. "We became farmers at Basa Air Base," she recalls. "My husband would plow and I would weed the field. Then we'd plant corn, buy and sell coffee, do whatever it took to earn an honest living."

For extra income she supplied rags to the Nestlé factory and found her big break when delayed deliveries prompted the company to seek a new supplier for uniforms. With no capital to their name, the couple bought and sold lanzones and *sintores* (native oranges) and used their P10,000 profit to buy materials for Nestlé's initial order of 25 lab gowns. "I didn't even know how to price the uniforms so I only earned P20 per gown," *Ka* Mila recalls with a laugh. Orders for pants came next, and soon enough, this late-blooming entrepreneur was getting orders that now total 1,700 uniforms a year. To supplement their meager capital, the Lambio couple hocked a 500-meter lot to get a bank loan of P50,000.

Jay Landrito, at the sewing machine, is saving up for college; *Ka* Mila in her spacious workroom

Fitting into her new role of employer wasn't as facile. Initially, nearby communities were reluctant to become subcontractors, as the orders were few and the earnings insubstantial. *Ka* Mila decided to turn to her family. "I got my sister as cutter, then my husband pitched in. We didn't even have a sewing machine at the start so our profits went to buying the machines one by one." They now have 10 sewing machines, a finisher, a zigzager and a buttoner, and eight employees who work in their home. "Our cutter earns P400 to P500 a day, while sewers who do overtime make up to P500 a day averaging five uniforms a day. They also get free meals, one lunch and two snacks. They're pretty spoiled," she laughs.

By her admission, *Ka* Mila is a softie. When family members of her workers get sick, she readily advances their pay, banking on their promise to work off the loan. "They don't have to cry and beg like I did for the salary that I had counted on for my son's tuition." By sheer dint of hard work, she managed to send her son to Manila for a vocational course.

Never one to turn down opportunities, this Batangas native took on additional orders for garterized plastic shoe covers that Nestlé workers use when entering sensitive areas in the food factory. The new job orders she subcontracted to a neighboring barangay, a business that soon became the major source of income for 18 households on Buboy Street. At any given time until dusk, residents of Buboy St. can be seen pedaling furiously at the sewing machines installed just outside their small box-like houses. From children as young as 10 to fathers, mothers, and grandmothers in their 70s, they take turns sewing the shoe covers that earn them the day's keep.

Typical is 12-year-old Jay Landrito, a sixth grader, who scarfs down his lunch the moment he gets home from school at 12:30 so he can take his turn at the sewing machine until 10 at night. The boy puts away P50 worth or at least 100 pieces of shoe covers on ordinary days, double that on weekends. It covers his daily allowance and has helped him buy a mountain bike, his grandmother Rosario Landrito, 53, says proudly. The youngest of eight, Jay is simply driven, raising guinea pigs on the side which he sells to Manila-based pet shop owners for P50 each. He's saving up for college, says the boy.

The Landrito household earns at least P1,000 a week from the sewing orders, which they get in cash from *Ka* Mila the minute they finish a bundle. Like their neighbors, the Landritos used to raise guinea pigs as their main livelihood, supplemented by the men's occasional earnings as masons, farmers, carpenters and coconut haulers. Life has become better, most of them say, citing Susan Virrey, 25, a mother of three, who is easily the fastest sewer in the group. "She can sew up to 500 shoe covers a day," says *Ka* Mila, "*pero di na siya natutulog* (but she hardly sleeps)," she adds in jest.

More than the extra cash, members of the sewing project report a change in household dynamics between couples, as men take to the machines themselves and take care of the children and laundry when it is their wives' turn. "There is a blurring between what was defined before as strictly men's and women's work," observes *Ka* Naty, *Ka* Mila's longtime friend and colleague in the Yard and Garden Livelihood Project, another Nestlé community project.

Ka Mila credits her good fortune and that of the community to the company's trust in her, although company officials are quick to point to the woman's "willingness to help out in any way she can and be on call at all hours."

Indeed, *Ka* Mila's loyalty has been put to a test several times, with one trial pitting her against her own son, Alex, who works at Nestlé's Breakfast Cereals factory. When Nestlé's trade union picketed the company some years back, the woman almost fainted when she spotted her son among the striking workers. Mother and son met at opposite sides of the picket in an emotional scene that had them both weeping and reproaching each other. *Ka* Mila recalls, "I begged him, *makisama ka naman sa akin, pag nagsara ito'y paano na*? (What if the company shuts down?) If you still recognize me as your mother, please stop this. You have to choose between your co-workers and me."

It was a tough call and, some sectors point out, one that reflects the conflict between the short-term benefits of subcontractual work and labor principles. While Nestlé's projects have definitely given otherwise unemployable household members a steady source of income, some trade unionists have taken issue with subcontracting's impact on the country's labor force.

Says Mel Nuqui, a former Nestlé employee and erstwhile union leader: "The Labor Code has provisions against subcontracting because it's exploitative and a form of union busting. Workers get much less, are hired on a casual basis and denied security of tenure and other benefits.

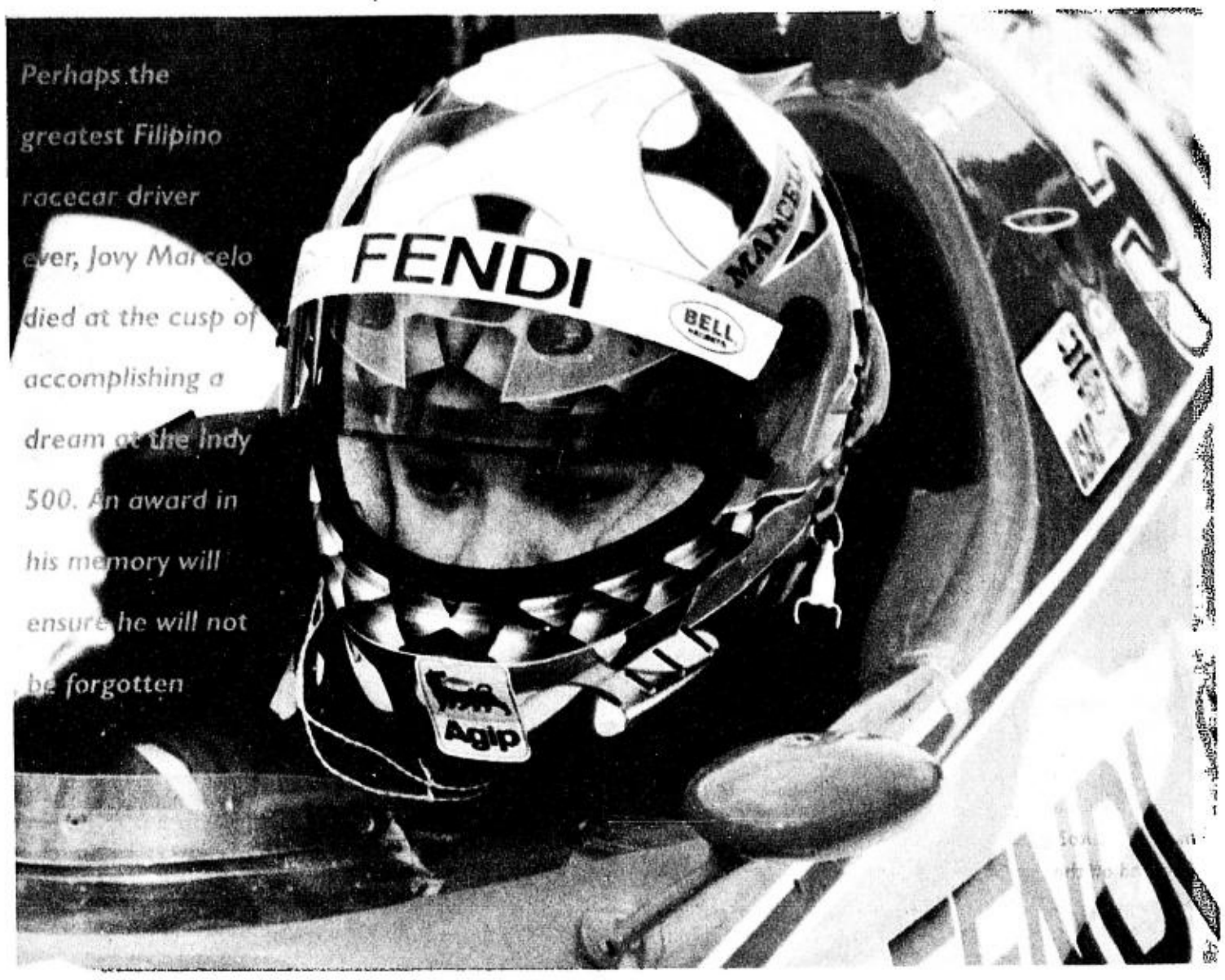
"Sure, people need money and when there's no other work available, they turn to subcontracting *dahil mabuti kaysa wala* (it's better than having no income). But if people have to work, they must be paid what is due them."

The debate notwithstanding, *Ka* Mila, who has been called a scab by some unionists, believes it is all worth it. "All I want is a simple life and to be able to help others in need. Physical tiredness is nothing. It's more stressful when one has no money."

In Memoriam

By Ruel S. De Vera

Gone Too Fast



Perhaps the greatest Filipino racecar driver ever, Jovy Marcelo died at the cusp of accomplishing a dream at the Indy 500. An award in his memory will ensure he will not be forgotten

I T WAS supposed to be just another practice session en route to the accomplishment of a life-long dream. But May 15, 1992 would overtake everyone with the accompanying sonic boom of a day to be remembered for many tragic reasons.

Edward "Eddie" Marcelo was waiting for his son at an Indianapolis airport earlier that day. The successful businessman's son was Edward Jovy Marcelo, or simply Jovy. At the young age of 27, Jovy was already the most accomplished Filipino motorsport driver ever. He had, in fact, come to Indianapolis to run in the most important car race in North America, the historic Indianapolis 500 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

"He'd already qualified for the race and was just due to do a practice session that day," Eddie remembers. The Philippine presidential elections had just finished, and the Marcelo patriarch had come to Indiana to watch Jovy become the first Filipino to run in the Indy 500.

Jovy, a confident but quiet man, picked up his father at the airport. Later on in the day, Jovy drove Eddie to the racetrack. As they were passing the track and heard that distinctive whine of ultra-fast open-wheeled racers, what amounted to rockets on wheels, Eddie thought about how long Jovy had worked to get here, how much his son loved these fast cars. But then a thoughtful Jovy turned to his father and said, "Dad, you know, I never thought I would say this, *pero parang nagsawa ako dito* (it's like I grew tired of racing here)." Eddie was surprised, but apparently, Jovy had grown tired of the grind, of the endless traveling. "It was the first time I had ever heard him say anything like that."

It occurred to Eddie that there was merit to his son's hesitation. After all, Jovy was relatively inexperienced in these really fast cars, and any accident at these speeds was extremely dangerous. "If you're not up to it you don't have to run, you know," Eddie counseled his son. "You can save the money and skip this for next year because it's no joke running at Indy." Eddie had already paid the entire season's sponsorship package to Euromotorsports, Jovy's team.

But Jovy shook his head and said, "No, we already have the sponsor this year, and maybe we won't get them anymore if I back out now. So let's do it, at least get the experience and all."

Later that day, Eddie walked over to the stands as Jovy suited up. Soon, Jovy entered the track in his Euromotorsport Lola Cosworth race car, a blindingly fast dart of a car in bright yellow, blue and white livery. These were merely practice runs for Jovy, done to ensure he would be familiar with the course by race day, when he would do what many thought impossible.

Eddie didn't see his son's car on track. The noise from the roaring engines was deafening, and each car's scream joined with others to create a tornado of sound. Sudden activity and the static-filled radio voices alerted Eddie that something had happened. "I didn't know who it was," he recalls, "but then someone told me it was my son."

Very much his father's son, Jovy was the second child in Eddie and Linda's brood of four. Born in 1965 in Quezon City, Jovy studied at La Salle, and began racing at 11 with go-karts. "I was a racer myself," Eddie explains. "I was into drag racing, motorcycles, and speedboats since I was young. It was really my *hilig*." The young Jovy would tag along with his father wherever Eddie raced, and this was all over Southeast Asia: Malaysia, Penang, Macau and the Philippines. "But I never went beyond that because I didn't get as much support from my old man," Eddie clarifies. "He didn't like racing so I had to do it myself."

Jovy took to the track joyfully and fearlessly. From remote controlled cars to go-karts, Jovy was a natural. "I noticed that he had talent because he could take corners easily, and his fighting spirit was strong, like the time he was leading one race, he spun out and shouldn't have been able to continue because he would have to push the kart. But he pushed it and ran it and even won the race!"

This desire was also fueled by the family's enjoyment of foreign races, such as the Indy Car, CART and Formula One races, on tapes then because there was no cable service carrying those sports. Jovy would watch the tapes, then rewind the tapes and watch them again, as Eddie remembers, "studying how the drivers took corners, taking in the sound, where they shifted and so on." Strangely enough, Jovy really wasn't mechanically inclined and didn't work on the cars much—"but could he drive," Eddie marvels.

Jovy left to study in the United States, first at St. Mary's, then Armstrong College in Berkeley, California. But with two years to go, he had the urge to race and told his father. As a graduation gift, Eddie sponsored his son's quest. And then Jovy began his journey in motorsports in earnest, racing in small cars at first but proving to be immensely successful everywhere he raced. Eddie sent him to the United Kingdom, where he raced in the storied courses of Silverstone and Brands Hatch.

Because the next logical move—to Formula 3000—was too expensive, Jovy instead raced in the New Zealand series. From there, Jovy finally returned to the United States as he battled in the Toyota Atlantic Championship, where he earned a spot on Duane Anderson's team in 1991. Piloting the no. 8 car, Jovy finished second to champion Mark Dismore, who now races in America's Indy Racing League in the Pacific area. Jovy earned series Rookie of the Year honors, as well. The next year, Jovy earned a seat in Bill Fickling's P-

Racing team and got Toyota and Marlboro as sponsors. In that league, Jovy would sometime drive wheel-to-wheel with Canadian Jacques Villeneuve, who would go on to become a Formula 1 World Champion, as well as CART veteran Jimmy Vasser. By ousting Vasser, Jovy would go on to win the 1991 Toyota Atlantic Championship in Laguna Seca, the best among 80 drivers from 48 countries.

It was a heady time, and Eddie remembered the pride he felt when he saw the Philippine flag emblazoned on the wide sides of Jovy's transporter. "The Filipinos would come and support him, and *pag nanalo siya* you could see all the Filipinos celebrating," Eddie smiles.

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Eddie Marcelo today with his son's helmet and trophies

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In Memoriam

By Ruel S. De Vera

Gone Too Fast

IT WAS supposed to be just another practice session en route to the accomplishment of a life-long dream. But May 15, 1992 would overtake everyone with the accompanying sonic boom of a day to be remembered for many tragic reasons.

Edward "Eddie" Marcelo was waiting for his son at an Indianapolis airport earlier that day. The successful businessman's son was Edward Jovy Marcelo, or simply Jovy. At the young age of 27, Jovy was already the most accomplished Filipino motorsport driver ever. He had, in fact, come to Indianapolis to run in the most important car race in North America, the historic Indianapolis 500 at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

"He'd already qualified for the race and was just due to do a practice session that day," Eddie remembers. The Philippine presidential elections had just finished, and the Marcelo patriarch had come to Indiana to watch Jovy become the first Filipino to run in the Indy 500.

Jovy, a confident but quiet man, picked up his father at the airport. Later on in the day, Jovy drove Eddie to the racetrack. As they were passing the track and heard that distinctive whine of ultra-fast open-wheeled racers, what amounted to rockets on wheels, Eddie thought about how long Jovy had worked to get here, how much his son loved these fast cars. But then a thoughtful Jovy turned to his father and said, "Dad, you know, I never thought I would say this, *pero parang nagsawa ako dito* (it's like I grew tired of racing here)." Eddie was surprised, but apparently, Jovy had grown tired of the grind, of the endless traveling. "It was the first time I had ever heard him say anything like that."

It occurred to Eddie that there was merit to his son's hesitation. After all, Jovy was relatively inexperienced in these really fast cars, and any accident at these speeds was extremely dangerous. "If you're not up to it you don't have to run, you know," Eddie counseled his son. "You can save the money and skip this for next year because it's no joke running at Indy." Eddie had already paid the entire season's sponsorship package to Euromotorsports, Jovy's team.

But Jovy shook his head and said, "No, we already have the sponsor this year, and maybe we won't get them anymore if I back out now. So let's do it, at least get the experience and all."

Later that day, Eddie walked over to the stands as Jovy suited up. Soon, Jovy entered the track in his Euromotorsport Lola Cosworth race car, a blindingly fast dart of a car in bright yellow, blue and white livery. These were merely practice runs for Jovy, done to ensure he would be familiar with the course by race day, when he would do what many thought impossible.

Eddie didn't see his son's car on track. The noise from the roaring engines was deafening, and each car's scream joined with others to create a tornado of sound. Sudden activity and the static-filled radio voices alerted Eddie that something had happened. "I didn't know who it was," he recalls, "but then someone told me it was my son."

Very much his father's son, Jovy was the second child in Eddie and Linda's brood of four. Born in 1965 in Quezon City, Jovy studied at La Salle, and began racing at 11 with go-karts. "I was a racer myself," Eddie explains. "I was into drag racing, motorcycles, and speedboats since I was young. It was really my *hilig*." The young Jovy would tag along with his father wherever Eddie raced, and this was all over Southeast Asia: Malaysia, Penang, Macau and the Philippines. "But I never went beyond that because I didn't get as much support from my old man," Eddie clarifies. "He didn't like racing so I had to do it myself."

Jovy took to the track joyfully and fearlessly. From remote controlled cars to go-karts, Jovy was a natural. "I noticed that he had talent because he could take corners easily, and his fighting spirit was strong, like the time he was leading one race, he spun out and shouldn't have been able to continue because he would have to push the kart. But he pushed it and ran it and even won the race!"

This desire was also fueled by the family's enjoyment of foreign races, such as the Indy Car, CART and Formula One races, on tapes then because there was no cable service carrying those sports. Jovy would watch the tapes, then rewind the tapes and watch them again, as Eddie remembers, "studying how the drivers took corners, taking in the sound, where they shifted and so on." Strangely enough, Jovy really wasn't mechanically inclined and didn't work on the cars much—"but could he drive," Eddie marvels.

Jovy left to study in the United States, first at St. Mary's, then Armstrong College in Berkeley, California. But with two years to go, he had the urge to race and told his father. As a graduation gift, Eddie sponsored his son's quest. And then Jovy began his journey in motorsports in earnest, racing in small cars at first but proving to be immensely successful everywhere he raced. Eddie sent him to the United Kingdom, where he raced in the storied courses of Silverstone and Brands Hatch.

Because the next logical move—to Formula 3000—was too expensive, Jovy instead raced in the New Zealand series. From there, Jovy finally returned to the United States as he battled in the Toyota Atlantic Championship, where he earned a spot on Duane Anderson's team in 1991. Piloting the no. 8 car, Jovy finished second to champion Mark Dismore, who now races in America's Indy Racing League in the Pacific area. Jovy earned series Rookie of the Year honors, as well. The next year, Jovy earned a seat in Bill Fickling's P-

Racing team and got Toyota and Marlboro as sponsors. In that league, Jovy would sometime drive wheel-to-wheel with Canadian Jacques Villeneuve, who would go on to become a Formula 1 World Champion, as well as CART veteran Jimmy Vasser. By ousting Vasser, Jovy would go on to win the 1991 Toyota Atlantic Championship in Laguna Seca, the best among 80 drivers from 48 countries.

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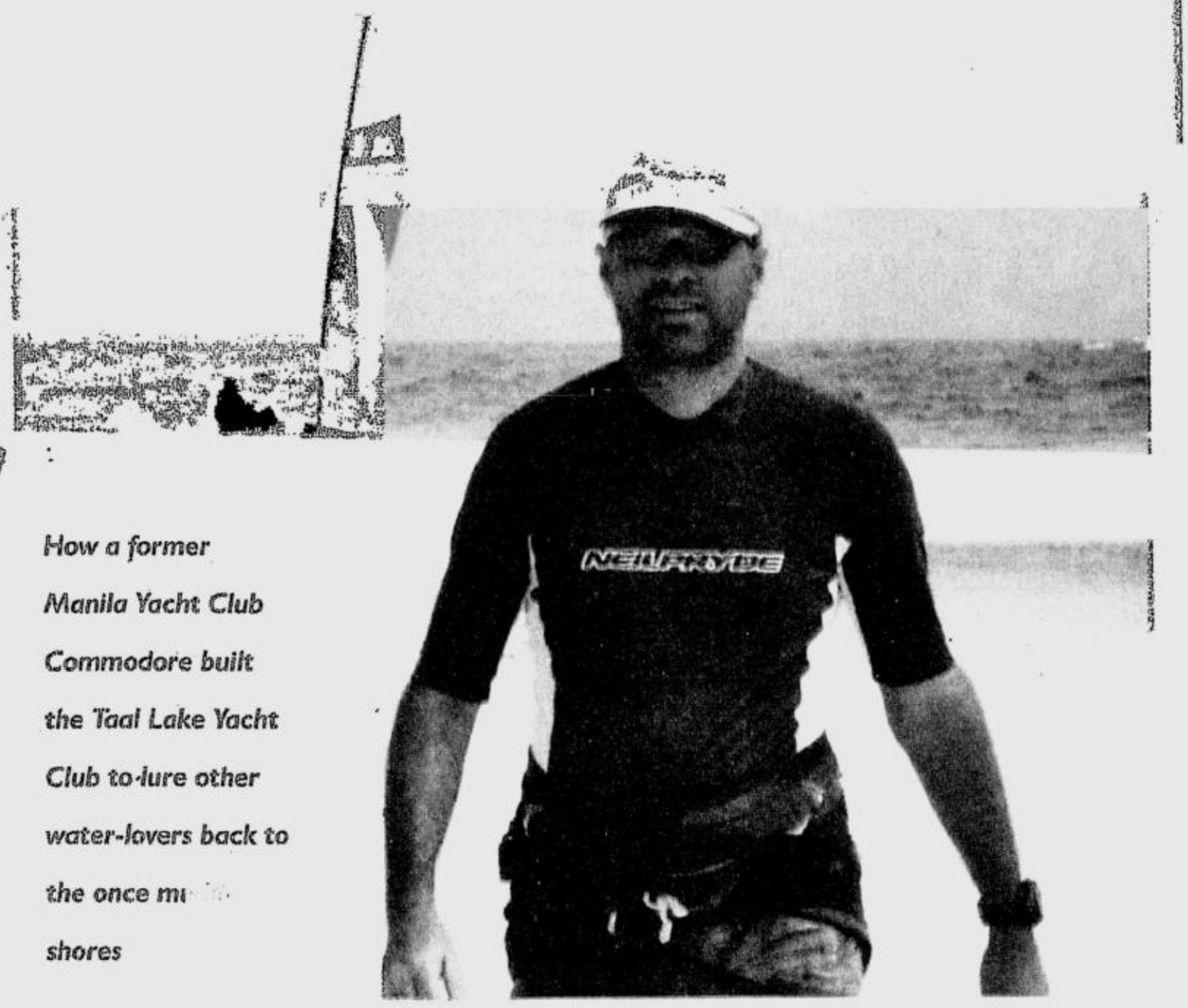
People for the Planet

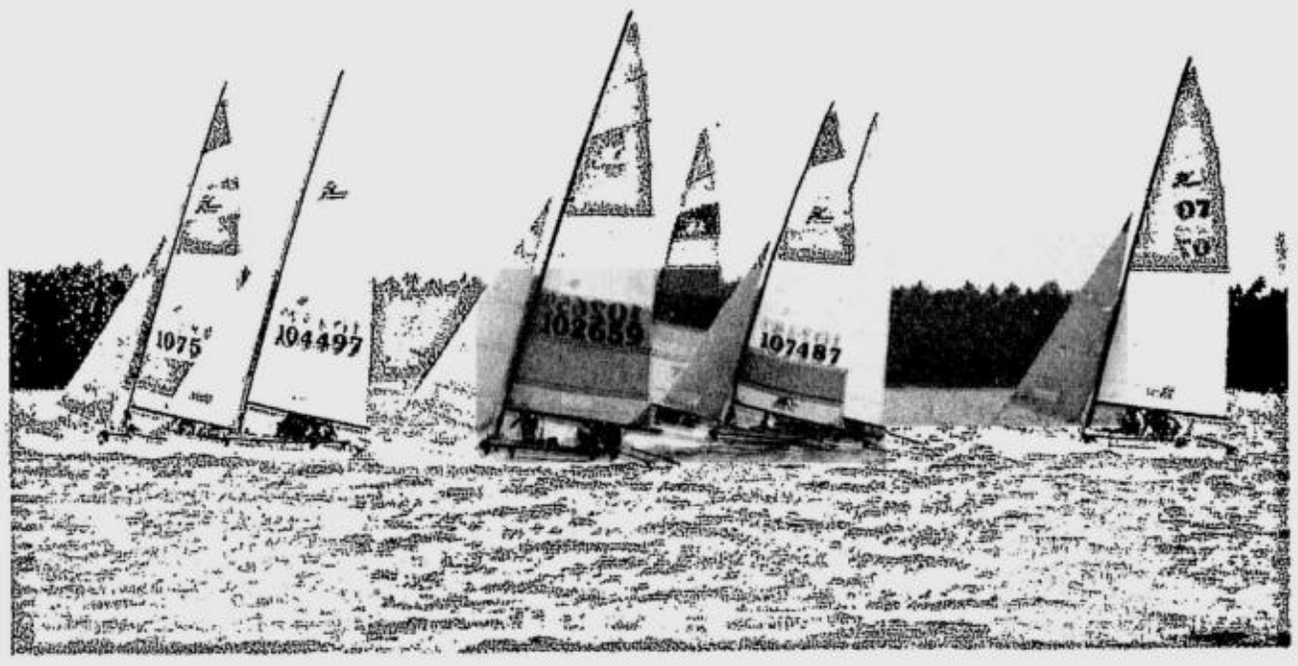
By Ross Harper-Alonso
Photographs by Harvey Tapan

The Sailor of Taal

How a former Manila Yacht Club Commodore built the Taal Lake Yacht Club to lure other water-lovers back to the once mi... shores



LIKE his father was in 1956, Peter Capotosto became Commodore of the Manila Yatch Club on Roxas Boulevard at 43. A few years after, he decided to leave Manila Bay and its famed sunset for the Northern shores of Taal Lake to create a family-oriented retreat for amateur sailors.



"The sea has always been part of my life, and I wanted to find a safe place where my children could enjoy the water-based activities I did as a child, so I bought a lakefront property facing an active volcano," laughs Capotosto. It may sound funny, but it took a great deal of time, effort and money to transform a remote, virtual island of silt and mud into an environmentally friendly haven that Taal Lake Yatch Club is today.

Born and raised in Manila, this tall gentleman of Italian, Scottish and Irish descent grew up with a love of adventure and a need to challenge himself. An organizer with an endless stock of interesting anecdotes and quick wit, Capotosto sets the direction for lakeshore folks and neighboring tourist resort operators should take. "The club promotes recreation and awareness that not only preserves the lake but ensures the safety of visitors and sustenance of fishermen," he explains. "It takes serious commitment to continue making people understand Taal Lake's future is in danger. It hasn't been easy to convince everyone jet skis, boats with outboard engines, irresponsible tourists and the increasing number of fishpens contribute to the environmental problems the lake faces today." Because the local government cannot address all these issues, "I'm convinced there is a need for the private sector to form an Auxiliary Coast Guard Squadron," Capotosto stresses, "with duties that include teaching boatmen basic maritime safety, monitor the issuance of fishpen permits and educate people to enjoy the lake without destroying it."

There is something for everyone at TLYC. On weekends, Capotosto and his wife Amalyn bring their children Sandy and Cristopher to mingle with kayakers, campers and people seeking respite from the city. A majority of the guests crave the revitalizing feel of a Hobie Dinghy leaning its weight into the breeze and pushing water aside. Races are held every first Sunday of the month and for more experienced sailors, there's "The Race Around the Volcano" or the Governor's Cup, organized by Noel Lim and held every November. This event is like magic for spectators. There is no sensation quite like watching about 50 colorful sails propelled by the unseen power of the wind vying for first place.

This isn't the only big race Peter Capotosto prepares for. He and former Hong Kong resident Mike Scantlebury conceptualized The Philippine Hobie Challenge four years ago, and since then the event has been an annual fixture. A format has been established. Highly experienced sailors with their boats gather in one place, race from there to the first stopover, stay awhile, cruise in company to the next stopover, stay a while again, then race once more to the destination port." The first year, 25 percent Filipinos participated and 75 percent foreigners. This year, it was 50-50," Capotosto proudly says. "It may be expensive to join this kind of race but it's a golden opportunity to push one's boundaries and discover undocumented, unspoilt parts of the country."

Each year Capotosto and the organizers select a different route for a different course and scenery. Last February, competitors rallied from Donsol to North of Cebu City with overnight camps on uninhabited islands. "We had to cross the San Bernardino Strait, and it was like we were sailing through a washing machine!" recalls Capotosto. "It was exciting but also scary." Needless to say, pursuing his interests can at times be difficult (even hazardous), but it certainly won't dull Capotosto's enthusiasm to help people realize that "we have priceless natural heritage and great tropical haunts worth experiencing and protecting."

Bon Appetit

By Amando Doronila

Fine Wine in the Aussie Suburbs

Australia-based Filipino migrant entrepreneur and winemaker Angie Joson-Olsen has ventured out into a very competitive industry, where tastes change mercurially

A FILIPINO woman and her Danish-Australian husband have broken through the highly competitive wine industry in Victoria, Australia by establishing what they claim to be Melbournes's first inner suburban winery in the suburb of Oakleigh. Their brand, Olsen Wines, was established in 1993.

They are Angie Joson-Olsen, a former manager of SM Makati, and Glenn Olsen, an engineer-turned-winemaker. Soon their wines will be available in the US and Canada after a successful trade mission to that region recently. They also own two liquor retail outlets in Melbourne's upper middle class suburbs, Albert Park and Camberwell.

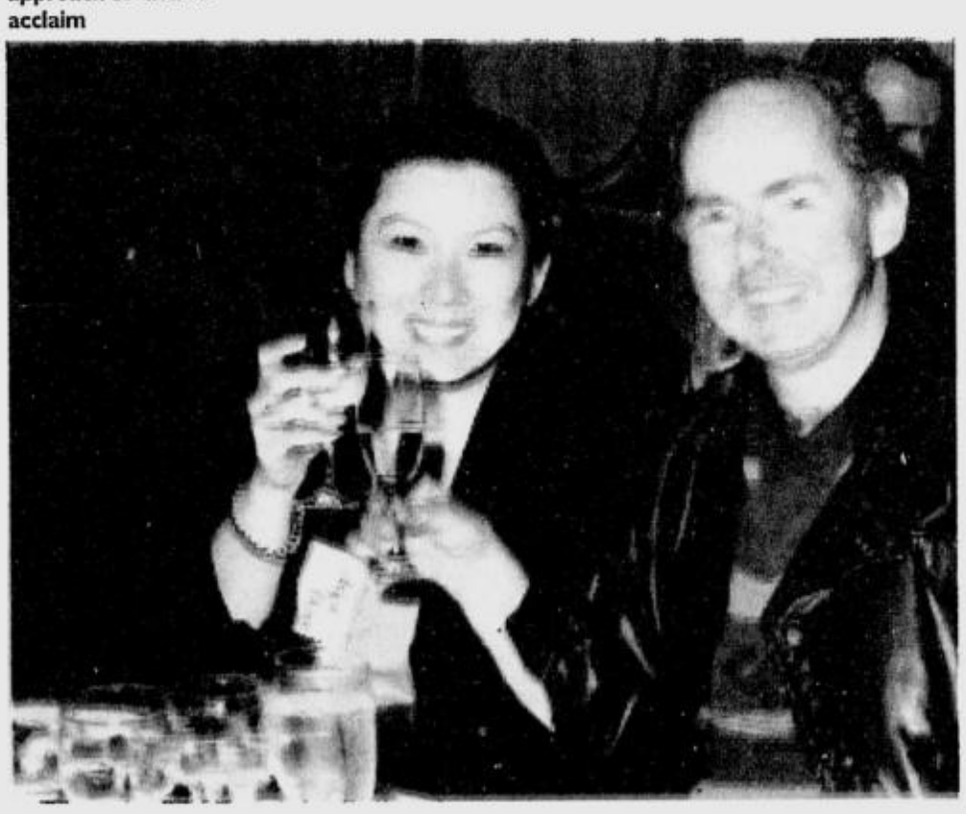
"We make wines to cater to the different palates of our customers with the right price structure," says Angie. "It is all about cash flow without sacrificing our quality and integrity as a producer. No point in making good wines with expensive packaging, then letting them sit in the cellars due to their high price. The word-of-mouth marketing approach in sales has been good for us."

While they do not own a vineyard, they have expert and dedicated wine grape growers whose expertise is highly commendable in viticulture, the science of growing vines. They source their grapes from all over the state and even from both South Australia and New South Wales, then process, age and then bottle them in their winery. Because grape farming is dependent on the graces of Mother Nature, having to do what the Olsens are doing gives them the advantage of always having good crops due to the different climatic regions of origin of their grapes.

If this is a departure from the conventional, it also carved a niche successfully for them in the industry where they specialize in what is called "Boutique Wines," made-to-order wines, meaning that grape producers and other wineries send their fruits to their winery and the Olsens make, age, blend and bottle the wine for them to their specifications. They have won awards for good wines

To page 7

Angie Joson-Olsen and husband Glenn have persevered in their unique wine-making approach to critical acclaim



Art

Dreams: Etchings and Ceramics, a mixed media exhibit by Mark Justiniani and Shoko Mafune, May 12-30 at the Galleria Duemila, 4/L, SM Megamall A, Ortigas Center.

Barely Summer, a furniture display showcasing the latest in furniture design and innovation, at the Festival Supermall Alabang, Carousel Court, Level 2 until May 18.

Music

Ayen performs in a special one-night show at The Captain's Bar of the Mandarin Oriental on May 17 billed as **Ayen at The Captain's Bar**. Joining her are Janno Gibbs and Agot Isidro. The show is for the benefit of the Victory Leadership Institute. Cocktails will be served at 7 p.m. while the show will start at 9 p.m. For tickets, call ML Entertainment at 638-7776 ot 638-7778.

Crazy 4U—Novo Concertante Manila, under the baton of Arwin Tan, fills your summer with beautiful music in a concert at the PhilamLife Theater on May 17 at 7 p.m. Tickets at P300 and P500 each. Special discounts await early ticket buyers. For details, call Madz (0919-3475278) or Ogie (0917-3981175).

Onstage

Pamamanhikan and Tatlo-Tatlo, Koiné Theater Foundation's production of Chekhov's "Proposal" and a Rene Villanueva play on what strategies aging people do to find wives and spouses before their biological clock run out. Shows on May 16, 17, 23, 24, 30 and 31, 7:30 p.m. at The Quickstep Studio 2/F Forab Building, 121 Kamuning Road. For tickets, call 410-4485.

Atbp

High school graduates of the **School of the Holy Spirit of Quezon City Batch 1983** will have a reunion on May 17, 3 p.m. at K.K.K. Food Revolution Restaurant, West Avenue, Quezon City. Batch members are enjoined to contact any of the following to update the batch directory and confirm their attendance: Malou Gonzalez-Neri, 0917-5381674; Jaypee Padilla-Hernandez, 0917-5399777; and Analyn Arce at sue4788@speedsurf.pacific.net.ph.

Match.ph, a website catering to singles, will hold a "speed matching" every Tuesday of May, 8 p.m. at Café Lupe, Edsa corner Guadalupe, Makati. Speed matching is a unique form of dating very popular in western countries. Each date lasts only 8 minutes so one person can meet up to 8 persons all in one evening. There are 8 men and 8 women, each paired up and sitted on separate tables. After the eight minutes of getting to know that date, everyone switches tables until every participant has met the others. At the end of the event, each participant will score who among his/her dates that interest him/her the most. And if there is a match, then contact numbers are exchanged. Any singles, 18 years old and above can join. Only P499 to register, inclusive of coffee and snacks. For registration and other details, log on to www.match.ph.

PAWS and friends at Rockwell

Join the Philippine Animal Welfare Society's (PAWS) **My Family Pet Parade** today, 3 p.m. at the Power Plant Plaza, Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Dr. corner Estrella St., Makati City. Participants will get a chance to win special awards and prizes for their pets, including the much coveted "Cover Dog/Cover Cat of the Year" title and will receive loot bags courtesy of Pedigree/Whiskas. The parade will also have a "Simon Says" portion and pets (and their "parents") that are into "game playing" may have an edge in winning a trophy or two. A Grand Rainin' Cats & Dogs Fashion Show will follow at 5 p.m. and will feature some celebrities and their pets in summer, party, super hero and other cool get-ups. The registration fee of P200/pet will benefit the Philippine Animal Rehabilitation Center, PAWS' animal shelter. Registration starts at 2 p.m. at the PAWS booth and first 50 registrants will receive free t-shirts. For details, call 0917-8734028, 0917-5295880, or 0917-9537874.

The Lopez Museum will hold a **landscape painting workshop** with artist Erwin Leaño as facilitator. The workshop will have eight 3-hour sessions from Monday to Thursday starting May 19. Enrollment is until May 17. Fee is P4,000 inclusive of materials. The sessions will be held at the Rizaliana section of the Lopez Museum, G/F Benpres Building, Exchange Road, Pasig. For details, call Fanny San Pedro at 631-2417 or 449-2355.

All Sundays of May, Manila Diamond Hotel's executive chef Boy Logro will conduct **40-minute demos for kids** 7-10 years old. To enroll, Mom or Dad has to avail himself of the lunch buffet at Palm Court Café. Line up of demos include Pizza Palettes, Cake Decorating, Open Face Sandwiches and Designer Sundaes. Lessons start at 12:30 p.m. For details, call 526-2211 ext. 1121.

Sweet Treats will hold a repeat of its **chocolate molding seminar** on May 17 at Estrada Street near V. Cruz LRT/DLSU. Registration fee is P1,000 inclusive of complete starter kit for 100 pcs. chocolates, snacks, plus no-bake rice crispies recipes. Morning class starts at 8:30 a.m. and afternoon class starts at 1:30 p.m. Limited seats only. For reservations, text or call 0916-8758704.

All divers and sea lovers are invited to join the **special dinner benefit for the Apo Reef Defense Fund** on May 13, 7-10 p.m. at the Grilla Bar, Kalayaan Avenue corner Rockwell Drive, Makati City. This is a fund raising activity to support the legal action of the divers who witnessed the illegal spearfishing incident at the Apo Reef Marine Natural Park last month. For details, call Chito Aquino at 895-3551 or 890-7807.

Gantimpala Theater Foundation announces its **auditions for its 26th Theater Season** on May 19, 2-8 p.m. at the Rehearsal Hall of the Concert at the Park Auditorium, Luneta, Manila. The auditions are open to professional theater artists and aspiring actors, 13-35 years old, male or female, with pleasing personality and stage presence. They must bring an updated resumé, a color close-up and full-body photo, a monologue in English or Filipino, and a song and dance number. Applicants are advised to cue their minus one tapes. For details, call 528-0603.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules.

X-manila

The National Federation of Hog Farmers will hold its **12th National Hog Farmers Convention** on May 15-17 at the CAP Convention Center, Camp John Hay Manor in Baguio City with the theme "Pro-Hog: Proficient Hog Farming-Profitable Hog Farming." Experts and lecturers will shed light on current issues affecting swine health and reproduction. For registration and inquiries, call 924-2259 and 924-2317.

By Jess Abrera

Antipolo Pilgrimage

LoveNotes ...from page 3

next weekend. Joe, all my excitement turned to disappointment. He brought his girlfriend along with him. I pretended that I was okay. But I was really disappointed. I should have been that girl. I should have been the one feeling his embrace.

Randy and I did not really speak during the day. They brought me home and I just waved goodbye to the group. I was crying in my room when the doorbell rang. It was Randy. He told me everything, his feelings for me, and how I broke his heart when I stood him up. He tried to forget me during those months. That was when he met Sam. She made him feel loved and needed. He told me he thought he had forgotten me. But then, his feelings came back when he saw me again.

I was so surprised with the revelations. I told him everything that happened, that I was now ready to take the risk of being with him, for us to be together. Apparently, he wasn't. He still wants to be with me, but he cannot leave Sam just like that. He has learned to love her. He told me that if we were really meant for each other, love would bring us together. With those words, he kissed me on the cheek and said goodbye. I cried myself to sleep every night thinking of him and what could have been. That was the last time we spoke. Although there are times when I want to call him, I believe that it won't help. It would only hurt me thinking that I could not be with him.

Melai

Dear Melai,

There is always a reason why things happen the way they do. No amount of regret and tears can bring back the chances that you had with Randy. Chances that you allowed to slip through your hands. But you had a valid reason; you were confused during that time and just didn't want to hurt your boyfriend. I would understand why you didn't show up. You were afraid of the unexpected and somehow you did not have enough courage to face the risk of ultimately falling in love with Randy.

Melai, many of us fail because many of us don't try at all. We make ourselves believe that the best way to overcome an emotional challenge is to avoid it. But avoiding it simply puts the challenge aside. We would still need to face the day when we have to confront the feelings we tried to stay away from before.

Sometimes, we ask ourselves why loving someone has to be a complicated mesh of emotions and entanglements. Sometimes, circumstances make it very difficult for us to openly express what we feel for someone. Sometimes, love is so elusive and when we finally find it, it's too late.

Melai, there is a time for everything, and now is not Randy's. Maybe there is a place somewhere for that love. Maybe there is a time to catch up on all that you have missed. But until that day dawns, you simply have to move on and live not a "what could have been" life, but rather a life that should be. If you are meant for each other, then you won't have to wait because Randy will come back to you. If he doesn't, then you simply have to accept that he never was yours. Do not let your love for him make you miserable. Let that love be the source of your strength so that you may find happiness in the arms of someone truly meant for you.

Bon ...from page 6

through this approach.

In a visit to their winery, I found that it does not have the romantic atmosphere associated with breathtaking views of a vineyard. Instead we saw a processing plant with a small room for laboratory testing. I asked Glenn Olsen, "Where is your laboratory?" He said, "It's all in the smell of the grapes," pointing to his nose. But truly, a good winemaker will pick up wine flaws through their sense of smell before taste. "Glenn's nose knows best," says Angie.

Their Camberwell store is known for "cleanskins/housewines." Cleanskins are the equivalent of wine with no-frills packaging, normally the result of heavy discounting by producers. Known wineries will sell their wines without their brands almost at the bare cost to alleviate their cash flow problem. These products will be sold to the retailers, who will promote them as their cleanskins with a substantial margin.

Angie started by retailing wines and decided she needed to have a point of difference. She specialized in boutique and imported beers, wines and spirits. This was not enough. A winery offered their wines without the label. Her store became the cleanskin specialist. When the supply of good quality unlabeled wines dried out, the Olsens decided to buy bulk wines and blend and bottle them. They even bought bulk wines from Chile to blend with their local bulk purchases to augment the supply-demand situation. In 1991, Angie took up a winemaking course to have a better understanding of it, and in 1993 the couple set up a winery and made wines from the grapes they could source out.

To this day, the Olsens are still supplying the industry with quality and palatable cleanskins, not because of cash flow problems but because the industry, especially the retailers, recognizes the healthy profit margin that this product gives to them. Heavy discounting is not an issue with cleanskins; quality is. Almost all wine stores in Melbourne carry cleanskins from Olsen Wines.

As I arrived at the winery, dark grapes for red wines had just been delivered in big bins in a big truck and poured down the de-stemmer/crusher. The juice and skins are then put in open-top vessels for open-top fermentation to extract good color and tannin from the grape skins. While the ferment starts, constant plunging of the skins at hourly intervals is done to keep the skins wet and well-saturated with juice. The fermentation is done and finished in stainless steel tanks, so you can have unwooded wines.

In France, winemakers are very proud and protective of the locality or regional origin of their grapes, and their wines are identified on the basis of the estates or the Chateau of origin—for example, Cabernet Franc and Gamay for Beaujolais.

In Australia, they tend to classify wines according to grape varieties. Shiraz, Cabernet, Pinot Noir and Merlot are popular red wines, while among the whites, Chardonnay is extremely popular, although the Australians are now identifying their wines according to their origin, such as the Barossa Valley in South Australia, the Yarra Valley in Victoria, Margaret River in West Australia and Hunter Valley in New South Wales.

For its labeled wines, Olsen has won the Hotelex 2002 International Wine Competition with their Big Fella Shiraz 2001 as the Best Shiraz in its category, and the Reserve Shiraz 1999 won the Open Class Category. In the Australian Inland Wine Show 2002, Olsen won Silver, Bronze and a trophy for wine they made for a customer. They also garnered three Certificates of Commendation, recognizing the quality of yet unfinished wines.

I tasted some of their labeled and house wines and I found most intriguing the 2002 blend of preservative-free Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Frank, Merlot and Petite Verdot. This is the blend that goes into Bordeaux wines, including those from Chateau Margot and Chateau Petrus. In the Olsens' wine stores, this bottle is sold as house wine and costs around A$13.95 retail and it sells very well, indicating that without being aided by much hype, wine drinkers have their own way of distinguishing good from bad wines. And often, price has little to do with quality.

Also highly recommended by winemakers is their premium blend, Angeluz 2000, said to be a good year. This is a blend of Ruby Cabernet and Cabernet Sauvignon from Redcliffs, Victoria. This wine shows a beautiful deep crimson, garnet color. The aroma shows lifted berry fruits and plum, with a hint of chary French oak and leaves a soft and full flavor taste in the palate. The winemakers call it "wine for the moment." This label was named after Angie—Angeluz Joson—as she did the blending for this wine, which is already exported in Asia.

Their Cabernet Sauvignon 2001 from the famous Coonawarra region in South Australia is worth trying. It has been matured in small French barrels for 18 months, and shows a deep, rich color with the character that made Coonawarra reds famous. The Big Fella Shiraz 2002 is highly recommended by the winemakers. It is a so-called "handmade wine" with very dense color and a seductive aroma of sweet spicy ripe fruit and subtle new oak. This is soon to be released in the US and Canadian market.

Of the whites, I like best the Coldstream Sauvignon Blanc-Semillon 2001 made from Yarra Valley handpicked grapes. Very small production. The wine has plenty of fruit aroma and flavor, but finishes with crisp acidity. This goes well with lightly spiced Asian dishes and fresh oysters.

I have moved away from Chardonnays, which are very popular in Australia, as I have found them to be too fruity, so Sauvignon Blanc appeals a lot to me. But for Chardonnay lovers, Olsen Wines has Coldstream Chardonnay 2001 from Victoria's Yarra Valley. The wine shows fine aroma combined with barrel ferment complexity. It is not very fruity and has a clean finish. This wine is a perfect match with Pasta Carbonara and other rich dishes.

Angie Joson-Olsen represents a Filipino migrant entrepreneur who has moved away from the traditional occupations and businesses, venturing out into a very competitive industry where tastes and the mood for wine change mercurially.

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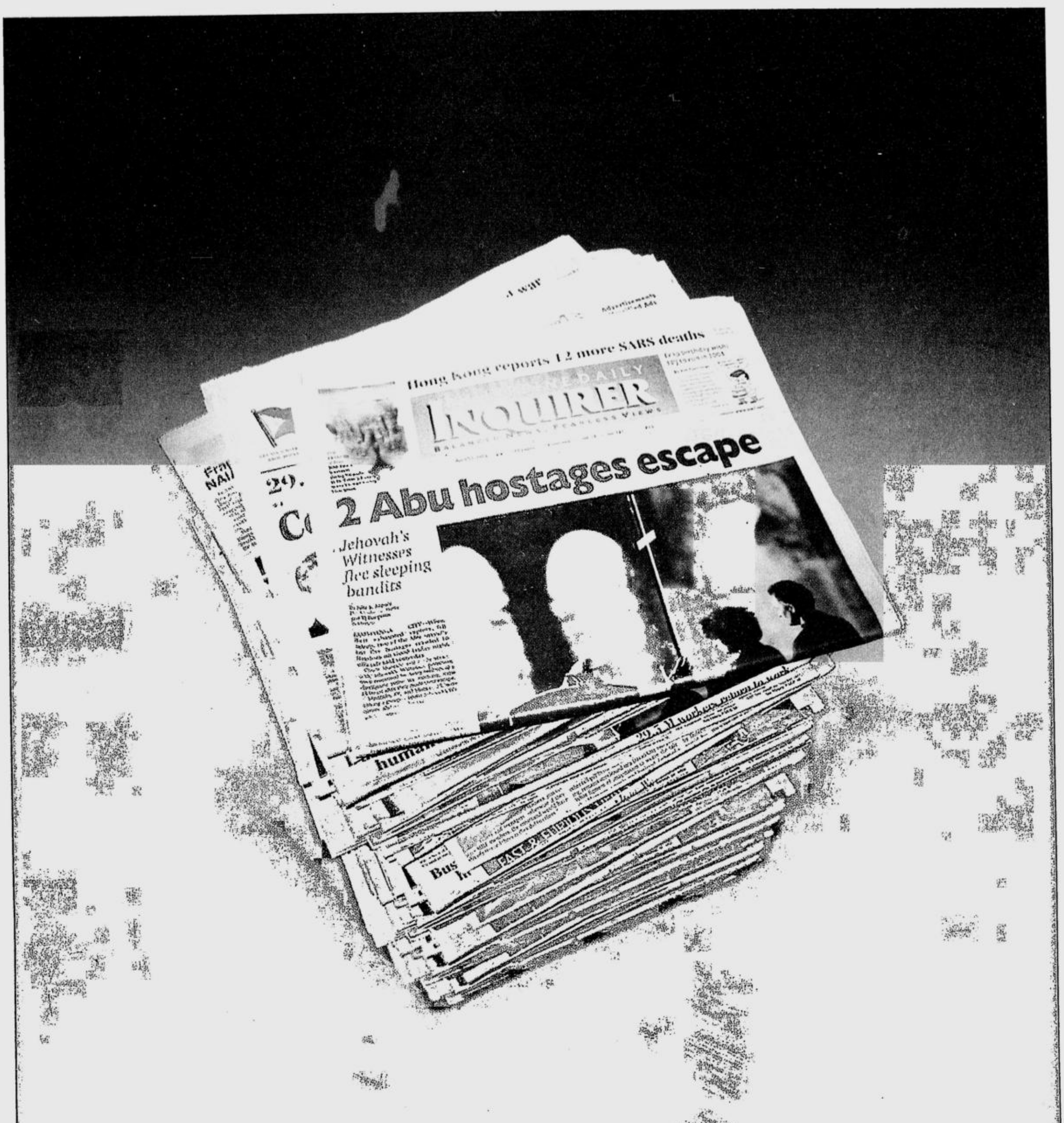

Top of the head

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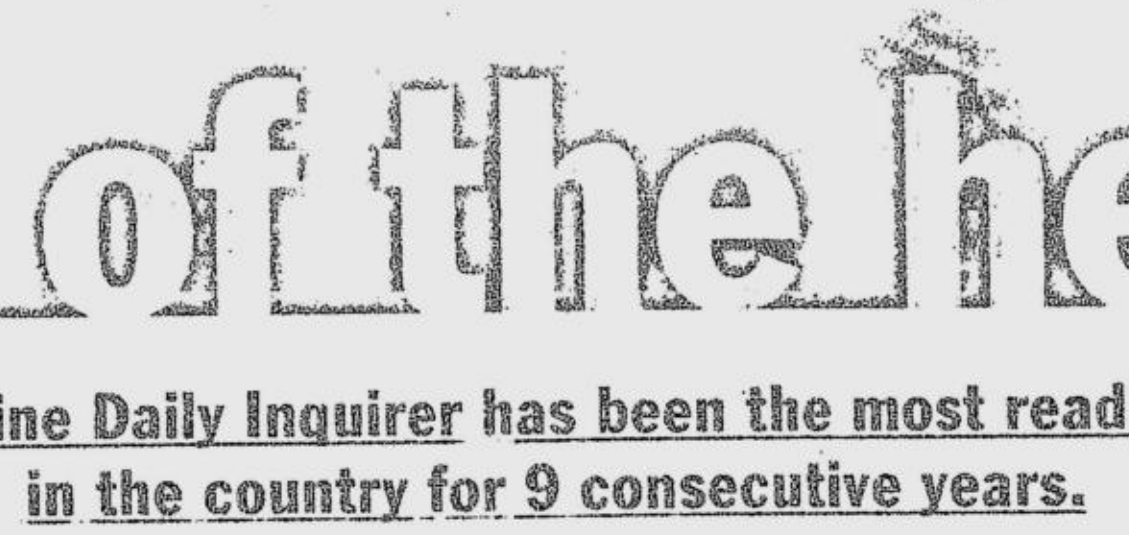

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INQUIRER
News that makes a difference

A Mother's Day Tribute from *Johnson's baby*

having a baby changes everything

"I'm not just Cheryl anymore. I am 'Mommy' now. That feels good."

Cheryl, mom to six-month old Sabrina, is not alone in this sentiment. Motherhood really does change a woman's life. Everything from her body to her sense of self is affected, in one way or another, by the birth of her child.

Recognizing the myriad of changes that moms go through, Johnson's Baby is paying tribute to moms this Mother's Day in a different, more meaningful fashion. This May, Johnson's Baby reaches out to moms through its **"Having A Baby Changes Everything"** campaign.

The campaign celebrates the unique journey of motherhood and how it transforms every aspect of a woman's life forever. Throughout the month, Johnson's Baby will be offering moms a host of activities to show its understanding and support of the changes that they are experiencing.

Through this Special Mother's Day feature, we hope to give you a flavor of the exciting activities Johnson's Baby has in store for you this May.

Happy Mother's Day!

Photography By:Pat Dy

Who would have ever thought the love of your life would be short and bald?

You always went for the tall, dark, mysterious types. You fell in love with one, married him and started a family. Then, when the baby was born, an amazing new feeling hit you. And now, as much as you'll always love your husband, this new little man just takes your breath away. **Having a baby changes everything.**

Happy Mother's Day
from
Johnson & Johnson

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Everything you need to know about Motherhood

A new baby. A new life. Suddenly, everyone's calling you 'Mommy.' You don't just think of yourself anymore; every decision involves you and your baby. Instead of shopping for make-up or a shirt for you, for instance, you're now shopping for infant shirts and rattles for your little one. Saturday gimmick nights with the *barkada* have also become girls' night with your daughter. Being a mother certainly changes everything about you, doesn't it?

This is the reason why Johnson & Johnson joined hands with *Good Housekeeping* magazine to give all moms a new magazine all their own: *Having a Baby Changes Everything.* It's a Mother's Day tribute for all mothers out there.

Inside this magazine, moms can read informative articles about child-rearing, from caring for baby during the first few weeks, discovering the joy of breastfeeding, to having a checklist of items your baby needs. Scared about giving baby a bath? We have practical tips to make bath time fun. There's also a helpful step-by-step guide to massaging your baby and tips on making most of playtime after a long day at work. Also in the magazine are articles on how to have a good night's sleep—both for you and your baby—and how to make your home safe for baby. Traveling with your little one? Check out our safety tips as well.

Of course, we didn't forget your own needs, mom! How does one make sense of all those changes after birth – from post-partum blues to falling hair? Read our article for helpful information. With baby taking up much of your time, you also need timesaving techniques. We have that, too. We also help you decide what child care option is best for you. And of course, don't forget the romance. Keep the love alive in your relationship with your husband with our sure-fire techniques.

Grace Castaño, president and managing director of Johnson & Johnson and a mom herself, says it so well: "As you read through the magazine, we hope that you find a little bit of yourself in these pages, from that euphoric feeling of finding out that you were expecting to the myriad of changes in your body, marriage, and lifestyle after the baby is born. Whether you are a first, second, or even fourth time mom, there is something here you can relate to and reminisce about."

The *Having a Baby Changes Everything Magazine* is free with every copy of *Good Housekeeping* May 2003 issue. Get it now at all bookstores and newsstands nationwide.

Moms and Babies at the Malls

To honor all mothers, Johnson & Johnson tied up with Good Housekeeping and Robinson's Department Store in presenting a special mall exhibit entitled "Having A Baby Changes Everything". There will be a photo exhibit of moms with their children in heartwarming bonding moments. Each mom shares her thoughts on how motherhood has changed her life. The exhibit will be held from May 1 to 31 at the Baby/Kids sections of four Robinson's Department Stores: Galleria, Metro East, Ermita, and Imus.

The grand launch for the exhibit was held yesterday at Robinson's Ermita with Ms. Christine Jacob and Ms. Isay Alvarez, two celebrity moms who helped unveil the exhibit. Mothers will also get an added treat: with every purchase of a special Johnson & Johnson's Mother's Day gift pack, moms will get a chance to have a special picture-taking session with their kids on the spot.

Come and celebrate Mother's Day and see how having a baby changes your life.

Bagong Mundo

song of new life, new world for mothers

"Bagong Mundo", or new world, is Johnson's Baby's original song that pays tribute to all moms. The song acknowledges that giving birth is a life-changing event for a woman.

Motherhood is a new world - a world full of laughter, full of hope, full of tears, and full of love. It is a world that is incomparable to any other. And even if it is not a bed of roses, motherhood is something that is treasured by many women. Altered dreams and big responsibilities may seem heavy but they are nothing compared to the love and bond that develop between mother and child.

Becoming a new mother is met with apprehension and excitement. But in the end, motherhood would always prevail. This beautiful experience of motherhood was brought to life through a song written by the talented Trina Belamide, who is most known for her song "Tell the World of His Love" made popular during the Papal visit a few years ago.

Isay Alvarez

Though Trina is not yet a mother, she finds inspiration from her own family. She has seen how important she and her siblings are to her mother, who gave her all for the safety and happiness of her children.

The voice behind the song *"Bagong Mundo"* is veteran stage actress and singer Isay Alvarez who was internationally-acclaimed through her role as *Gigi* in the original Miss Saigon. A mother of three, Isay is very proud of her children Didang, 17; Boks, 11; and Miyong, 4 years old. "They are good children. My eldest is already in high school. Boks is in grade five and my youngest will start school this school year."

"As a mother, I can relate to the song '*Bagong Mundo*' especially the line '*Bagong mundo, sa kanyang pagsilang, buhay mo'y nag-iba, mga pangarap mo'y 'di na sa 'yo, para na sa kanya.* When I was younger, I wanted to be successful in my chosen field but now, I still want to succeed but in a different way because it is all for my kids. My own dream for them is to grow up and become good Filipinos and Christians at heart," Isay concluded.

See page 4 for the lyrics of the song

Johnson & Johnson

Baby your skin

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milk lotion

Give yourself the milky smoothness and fairness of baby's skin.

Introducing new Johnson's Baby Milk Lotion.
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Now you can have the baby smooth, baby fair, baby beautiful skin you were born with.

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For skin so smooth and fair... just like baby's.

Reaching out to those in need

Johnson & Johnson donates P1 Million Worth of Equipment to the UP-PGH Department of Pediatrics

Need for Lactation Support

Sepsis, a severe widespread infection, is a primary cause of death in high-risk newborns of the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and Pediatric Intensive Care Unit (PICU) of the UP-PGH.

The risk of contracting this infection can decrease if these babies are able to get the full benefits of breastfeeding. In fact, a considerable number of sick babies in the NICU are able to overcome sickness with the help of constant breastfeeding.

While the advantages of breastfeeding are widely known, most mothers still have to be guided and coached on proper breastfeeding. In many congested ICU's, adequate lactation support is lacking. Currently, in such understaffed ICU's, the nurses and nursing assistants are handling multiple clinical responsibilities. Thus, many mothers go through breastfeeding unsupervised. Frustrated, exhausted and insecure, even the most committed mother may give up breastfeeding altogether if she is not helped.

According to Dr. Maria Asuncion A. Silvestre of the UP-PGH Medical Center Department of Pediatrics, *"Breastfeeding allows infants to 'tap' a rich source of antibodies that can prevent many kinds of illnesses. Not many people realize that breastmilk is a living fluid which serves as the first 'vaccination' of the babies because it boosts their built-in resistance to infections. One important thing that deters many mothers from breastfeeding is the shortage of support from knowledgeable people, the one-on-one, face-to-face supervision that can see mothers through this adjustment period. Education can dispel the many misconceptions about breastfeeding."*

Johnson & Johnson (J&J) handed over a plaque of commitment signifying their one million-peso donation to the UP-PGH Department of Pediatrics. Shown in photo are (L-R) Dr. Perla D. Santos Ocampo, Child Foundation President; Dr. Carmelo A. Alfiler, UP-PGH Department of Pediatrics Chairman; Ms. Grace Valderrama, Assistant Director for Nursing; Ms. Josefina Fermin, UP Manila Development Fund Executive Director; Mr. Diosdado C. Salvador, J&J ASEAN President; Mr. Poch T. Robles, External Affairs Director; Mr. TaeHong Choi, Janssen Cilag Phils. General Manager; Mr. Michael F. del Prado, J&J Medical Phil. Managing Director; and Ms. Grace R. Castaño, J&J Phils. Inc. President and Managing Director.

Thus, the UP-PGH Department of Pediatrics saw the need for a Lactation Unit that can provide reliable *lactation support* for mother-infant dyads through a comprehensive approach to breastfeeding. The proposed Lactation Unit will be composed of highly competent and committed medical and paramedical personnel who will give prompt, intensive and continuing breastfeeding support for mothers and their infants, particularly during the crucial period after delivery but also during the pre-natal and post-discharge stages. The Unit will also hopefully serve as a venue for research in the field of breastfeeding and will help in the training and education of young doctors.

Donation of P1M Worth of Equipment to benefit new mothers

Recognizing the needs of mothers and babies this Mother's Day, the Johnson & Johnson Group of Companies (J&J Consumer, Johnson's Medical and Janssen-Cilag) through its Philippine Contributions Program, is supporting the UP-PGH Pediatrics Department with a donation of one million pesos, a portion of which will be used to help establish its proposed Lactation Unit. The donation will help provide medical equipment such as a radiant warmer, hospital-grade electric and portable breast pumps, and other needs of the Pediatrics Department.

With this effort, Johnson & Johnson hopes to reach out and help improve the lives of mothers and babies in need.

You can make a difference this Mother's Day

There is a new way for you to celebrate Mother's Day. Johnson's Baby invites you to help support the set-up of the proposed Lactation Unit of the University of the Philippines-Philippine General Hospital (UP-PGH) Pediatrics Department.

The proposed Lactation Unit is intended to help promote breastfeeding through the proper education and guidance of new mothers.

Through your purchase of any Johnson's Baby product this May, you will be helping mothers at UP-PGH through a very important change in their life – their new role of providing vital nourishment to their babies.

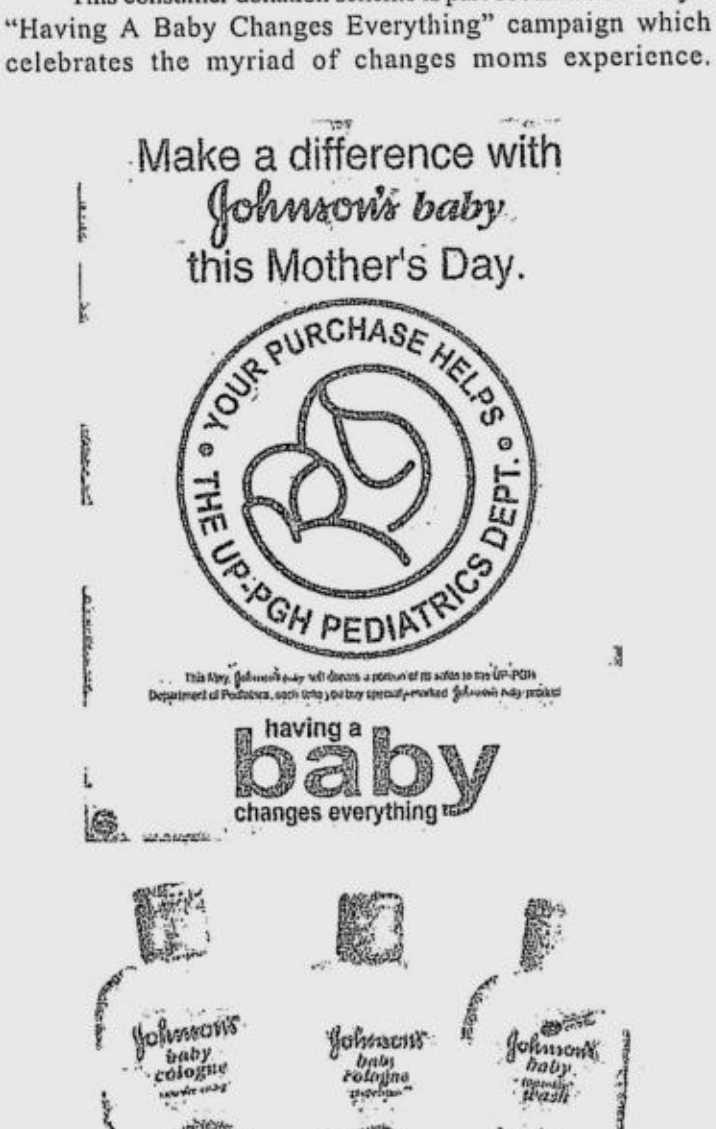
This consumer donation scheme is part of Johnson's Baby's "Having A Baby Changes Everything" campaign which celebrates the myriad of changes moms experience.

Make a difference with *Johnson's baby* this Mother's Day.

YOUR PURCHASE HELPS • THE UP-PGH PEDIATRICS DEPT. •

This May, Johnson's Baby will donate a portion of its sales to the UP-PGH Department of Pediatrics, each time you buy specially-marked Johnson's Baby products

having a baby changes everything



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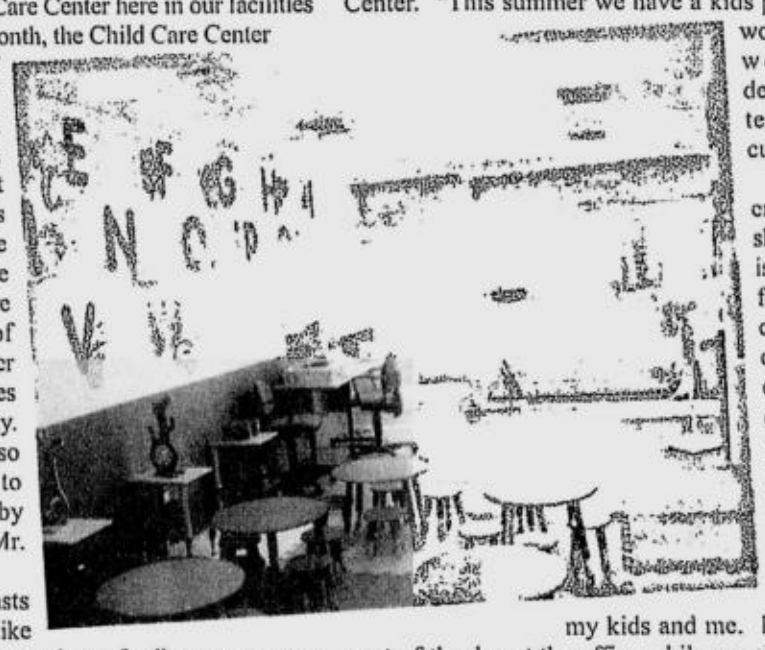
Bonding with baby at work

"Having A Baby Changes Everything" rings true to many mothers as they get occupied with the intense desire to bond with their new born babies. With their changing role, moms feel the need to be there for their developing infants. However, one of the challenges that new mothers have to face is balancing work life with home affairs. Johnson & Johnson (J&J) Philippines, Johnson's Medical and Janssen-Cilag Philippines, being family-oriented companies, understand this concern among its employees and aim to address this by opening a Child Care Center in its facilities in Parañaque.

J&J's Child Care Center is the first in the Asia Pacific region which is a response to the employees' growing needs. The commitment to look after its staff traces back in the J&J Credo where it highlights the company's social responsibility to the public, its clients, and most especially its employees. While it aims to provide a secure and comfortable area at the workplace for employees' children, the Child Care Center also helps the parents in coping with domestic concerns like not having a caregiver to look after their children while they are at work as well as not having quality time to share with their toddlers during the daytime. More importantly, the Center offers new mothers the opportunity to continue breastfeeding their newborns or store express milk in a private area built solely for this purpose.

In line with its new campaign, J&J has seen within its own backyard that "Having A Baby Changes Everything." It is common for mothers to experience life changes and shifts in priorities and needs. '"Our employees' concerns are also our concerns. We have observed that whenever mothers bring their children here at the workplace, there is no special area for the kids. It has become a dilemma for the parents which to prioritize: work or family? We recognized that this is one very important issue among employees which J&J can help in solving. This is when the idea of having a Child Care Center here in our facilities was formed. In fact, during Women's Month, the Child Care Center was the top answer on the question of what J&J can still do for its employees," explains J&J Philippines Human Resource Director Ruiz "Owi" Salazar.

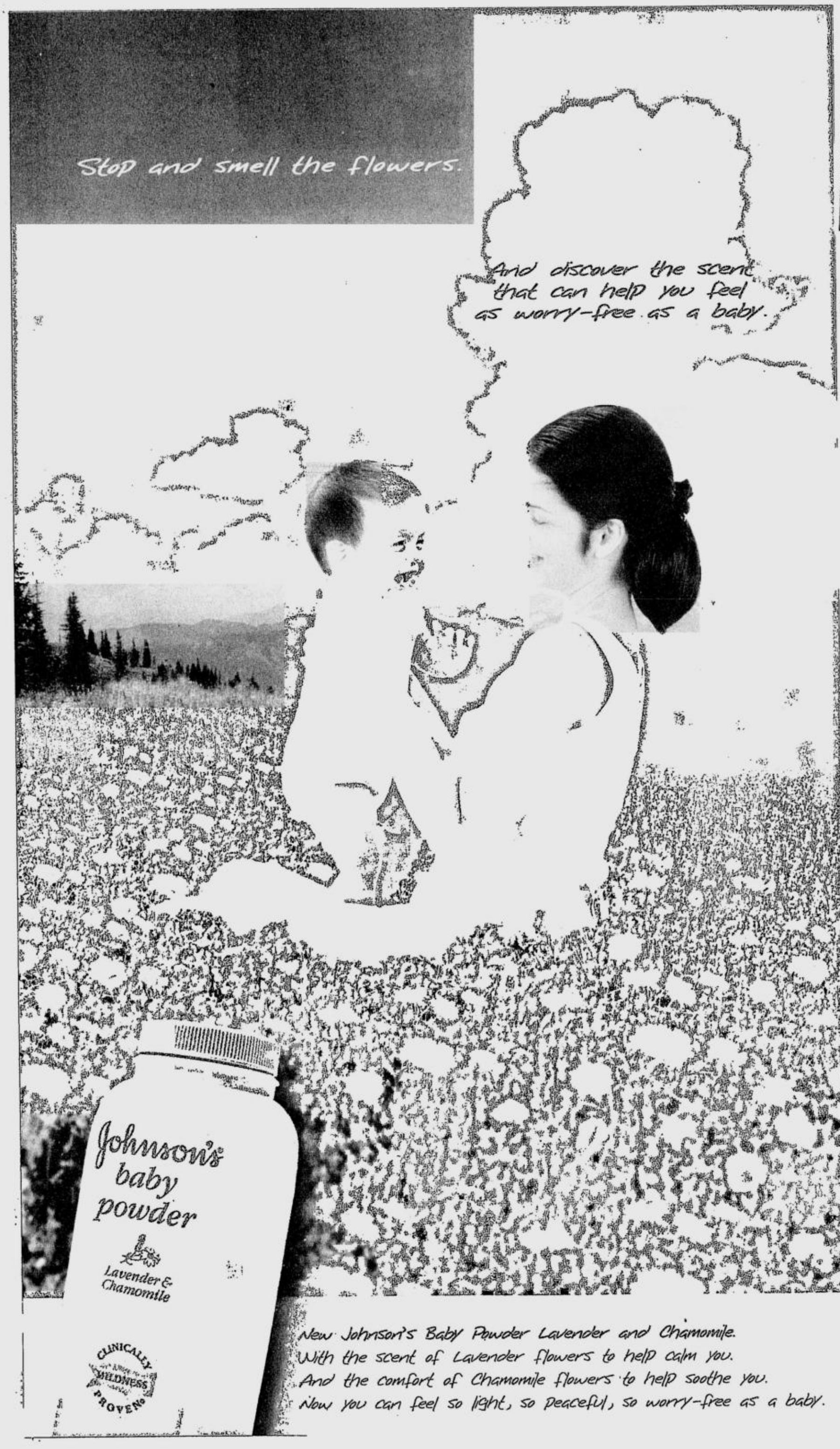


"But the Child Care Center is not only beneficial to mothers. It also benefits the fathers and the whole family in one way or another. The Center caters to the obligation of single mothers to take care of the financial and emotional needs of their children. We also believe the Center gives a positive perspective to the singles about the joyful side of raising a family. On the other hand, the Center can also become a venue for our employees to express their talents and creativity by volunteering in various activities," Mr. Salazar continues.

The 193-square-meter Center boasts of mother and child-friendly amenities like rubberized play area and study area, nap area, breastfeeding area, pantry, kiddie restrooms, refrigerator and purified drinking water, television, and computer. It also has an enclosed outdoor play area for children to enjoy.

J&J Philippines Associate Human Resources Manager Emerliza Ganzon reveals that they have lined up programs in the Child Care Center. "This summer we have a kids program where there will be workshops for the children that would enhance their development. A nurse and a teacher aide will provide a curriculum for this program."

Vicky Veloso, one of the employees of J&J Philippines, shares, "The Child Care Center is a very welcome initiative. I feel blessed that I am with this company because it really takes care of its employees and extends its care to the dependents. It ensures that the bond between the employees and their families are well-maintained. With a six-year old son and a two-year old daughter, I felt that I need to infuse the closeness between my kids and me. It is sad that I spend the best part of the day at the office while my children are left at home. But with the Child Care Center, I can see my children during my break and I can spend lunch with them. It would also become a source of inspiration for me to work harder."



Isay Alvarez

Mother's Day Special

Bagong Mundo

(music and lyrics: Trina Belamide)

Bagong Mundo, sa kanyang
pagsilang
Buhay mo'y nag-iba
Mga pangarap mo'y di
na sa 'yo
Para na sa kanya

Bagong mundo, iyong aalagaan
Bunga ng pag-ibig mo
At pananagutan ang
sa iyo'y aasa
Sa habang panahon

Chorus:
Bagong Mundo
Ito na ang mundo mo ngayon
Puno ng ligaya't pag-asa
Ganyan magmahal
ang isang ina
Habang buhay
Kaligayahang tunay
Ipadama ang
pagmamahal mo
Dito sa iyong bagong mundo

Bagong mundo, matayog
na pangarap
Ay kayang abutin
Basta't para sa
kinabukasan niya
Walang di gagawin
(Chorus)

Bridge:
Ilaw ng tahanan,
pag-asa't sandigan
Maraming salamat sa 'yong
Pagkalinga sa sanggol
na tangan mo
Karugtong ng buhay mo
(Chorus)

Trina Belamide